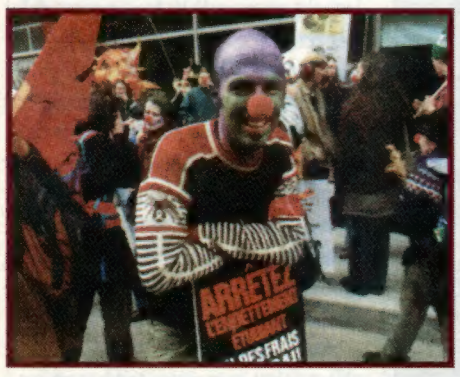
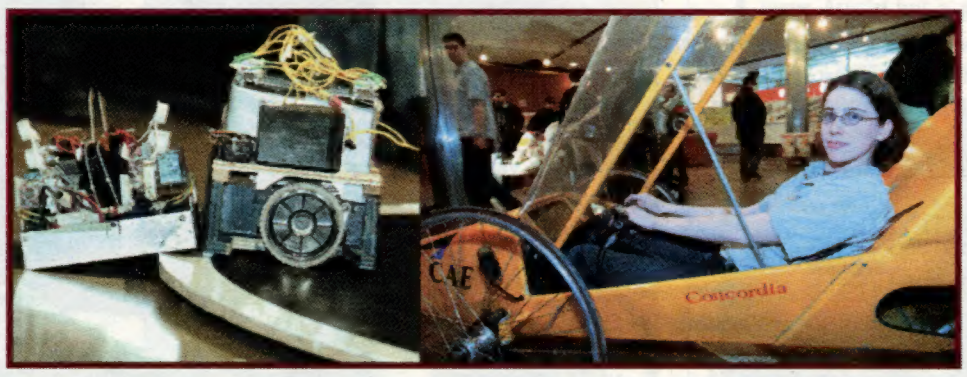
Concordia's
Thursday Report

Publications Mail Agreement No.:1758594

VOL. 25, N° 12 MARCH 15, 2001 http://pr.concordia.ca/ctr/



Rob Green bows out
page 9



Traffic was heavy for National Engineering Week
page 7

Telling prom stories
page 3

Loyola plan accepted by City of Montreal

The City of Montreal's urban planning commission has accepted Concordia's development plan for the Loyola campus, and will recommend approval of the plan to the city's executive committee. The centrepiece of the plan is construction of a new science complex on the site.

The planning commission's report, released after its hearing on March 7, included a number of comments and recommendations that Vice-Rector Services Michael Di Grappa said can readily be accommodated.

These include the university instituting an incentive program to increase use of the parking lot south of the athletic complex and some modifications to the campus design, including sturdier buffers to protect the privacy of residents on neighboring streets. The city will be examining the suggestion of a parking sticker system for residents.

Some of these suggestions originated with the residents themselves. A meeting was held March 3 on the Loyola Campus so that university officials could present the project to campus neighbors and listen to questions about the project. Di Grappa said the meeting was a productive one, and that a strong effort will be made to keep the community informed throughout the construction period.

The planning commission also recommended exploring the possibility with the MUCTC of a transportation link with the Vendôme métro station similar to the shuttle bus run to the downtown campus.

Shovels are likely to hit the ground on the Loyola Campus this summer, after the executive committee of Montreal enacts a zoning bylaw. The technical planning work continues for the building, which will house four science departments, and a project management firm has been hired.

The Jesuit residence has been purchased by the university. Members of the Jesuit community will continue to live there for three years, but at some point the space may be used to house graduate students.

On April 24, the planning commission will meet again to consider Concordia's plans to build two big buildings on the downtown campus.

Three of the four Faculties have undertaken internal fundraising campaigns for their buildings. The fourth will be launched March 22. The leader so far is the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, with a participation rate of 64 per cent.

ANDREW DOBROWOLSKYJ

Robowars return to Concordia

Hannah Okafor does some last-minute tuning on her "solar roller" for Concordia's robotics competition. Once an annual event, Robowars has not been held at Concordia since 1998. The key lies in the design, said organizer Cedric Viou. Students have to try to make a very light robot, using big enough solar panels and as few electronics components as possible. The winner is the first robot that gets to the other end of the track. The competion also featured robot sumo wrestling, which involves two robots trying to force each other from a wooden plank. *See story page 7*

François-Marc Gagnon launches the Jarislowsky Chair in Canadian Art History

BY BARBARA BLACK

The new Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art was celebrated on March 6 with a lecture by one of Quebec's most passionate communicators on the visual arts.

The Institute's Chair in Canadian Art History was made possible through a gift of $500,000 from Gail and Stephen Jarislowsky, matched by $500,000 from the University.

Stephen Jarislowsky is a well-known Montreal investment counsellor, and his wife Gail has a Master's in English literature from Concordia. The couple, who are longtime art-lovers, were obviously elated with the results of their gift.

The distinguished Quebec art historian François-Marc Gagnon is the first holder of the Institute's Chair in Canadian Art Studies. He gave a capacity audience in the downtown Faculty Club a typically engaging talk on the early painter of life in New France, Cornelius Krieghoff.

Much loved in English Canada, particularly for Christmas cards, Krieghoff's bucolic, often humorous scenes of habitant and aboriginal life have been less popular in French Canada, thanks in part to a denunciation by the influential critic Gérard Morisset early in the 20th century.

However, Gagnon showed how Germanic myths about the redemptive powers of the forest informed Krieghoff's paintings of the Canadian wilderness, and pointed to details in his paintings that showed his sympathy with his French-Canadian neighbours.

A dynamic and inspiring teacher, Dr. Gagnon taught for many years at the Université de Montréal, where he conducted significant research and has been intimately involved in the joint PhD program that involves Concordia, Université de Montréal, UQAM and Laval.

ANDREW DOBROWOLSKYJ

Dr. Gagnon, Chair in Canadian Art History

His expertise is internationally recognized, particularly on the Automatiste movement of the 1940s and early 50s, and he won the Governor-General's Award in 1978 for his critical biography of Paul-Emile Borduas.

As Professor Brian Foss noted in his introduction, however, the average Quebecer is more likely to have caught Gagnon's passion for art through his television programs on the subject. Made some time ago, these programs can still be seen on Télé-Québec and Radio-Québec.

Foss told the audience, "François-Marc tells stories of municipal trash collectors calling out a string of Canadian artists' names when they recognize him in the street — perhaps the ultimate vindication of one's effectiveness as a teacher."

"For many years," Dr. Gagnon said before the reception, "I have dreamed of an institute in Canadian art, not only to encourage research in the field, but also to make the general public more aware of its richness.

"Now, Concordia and Gail and Stephen Jarislowsky are making that dream a reality. Concordia, incidentally, was the first university in North America to offer a PhD in Canadian art history."

Dean of Fine Arts Christopher Jackson said that given Concordia's longstanding commitment to the study of Canadian art, the establishment of the Institute is particularly gratifying.

Loren Lerner, chair of Art History, told the audience that the first international fellow, Rosa Schulenburg, will come to Concordia this summer from Germany to do research and teach a course. She is interested in popular art, especially outdoors.

The Institute will seek to further the appreciation and understanding of Canadian art through dealings with the academic and museum communities, research, projects and publications, conferences and the production of materials for teaching at all levels and the general public.

In keeping with a newly established practice regarding donors to the university, an inscribed copy of Dr. Gagnon's lavishly illustrated biography of Paul-Émile Borduas has been acquired for the Webster Library in the Jarislowskys' name.

Protests unite those suspicious of corporations, says cultural critic

BY DEBBIE HUM

Virtually everybody has something to say about the process of globalization. Many, especially students, are planning to protest the Summit of the Americas in Quebec City in April. Everyone is primed to watch a lot of people get arrested.

To Peter van Wyck, Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, these features of the so-called anti-globalization movement are not entirely remarkable given our age-old history of civil disobedience and riots, and events throughout the 20th century.

"Protests around globalization issues are no more confrontational than protests in the past. That's a convenient myth," van Wyck said. "A perception has been built up of confrontational youth, but if there's any truth to it whatsoever, I don't see any evidence of it."

Students have been a huge social force for many decades, van Wyck noted. He likes to think that the large representation of students at these protests has something to do with their being in school.

"It's an enabling environment in which students are exposed to new ideas and discover that one can have a voice," he said. While there isn't a singular unifying cause among the students, "they're there to take part in a public forum, in an attempt to say, 'We're watching, we don't like what's going on, and we don't like being excluded from any sense of a democractic process and of discussion around it.'"

According to van Wyck, the last 25 years have seen a kind of "radical unmooring" of global capital development from the confines of the nation-state.

There is a prevailing sense that the nation is no longer the forum for democratic discourse, that corporate institutions have crept in in the middle of the night and hijacked the possibility for that sort of discourse to take place, he said. People are beginning to contest the practices and dimensions of globalization that they see as a move away from civil society.

One characteristic of the globalization phenomenon, van Wyck observed, is the spontaneous affinity that is built between unlikely comrades with apparently incompatible agendas.

This is not surprising to him, either.

"The apparently monolithic nature of what we're up against is significant enough that it's making a lot of people overlook a lot of very real political differences," Van Wyck said. "It's convenient, practical and prudent to co-operate. It really is an exercise in politics and political discourse."

The list of constituencies expected to show up uninvited in Quebec is extensive and inclusive — anybody who has anything to do with social justice, humanitarian, ecological, cultural, economic, employment and empowerment issues.

However, van Wyck stressed that the clashes we will witness between protesters and security forces in Quebec are simply the visual front-end of the movement, the bites that look and sound good. Many other people will be trying to set up a counter-discourse against the talks going on behind closed doors, mainly non-governmental organizations who have articulated protests on the global stage since the late 1960s and early 70s.

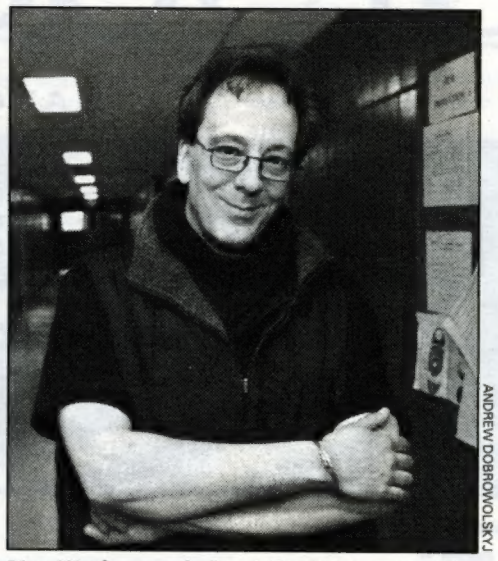
"In a way, the rise of the non-governmental organizations has been cushioning part of the shock of economic development and the development philosophy that has been largely responsible for increases or decreases in welfare of living for most of the world," he said.

Certainly, he added, the media has been complicit in a massive simplification of what globalization really means and what's actually going on. Do we mean corporate globalization, cultural globalization, information globalization, or globalization of the civil society?

"We need to be far more specific about what it is we're talking about," said van Wyck. "Obviously, there are a lot of interesting possibilities that are presented by a world that is understood globally, and not all of them are bad."

Van Wyck, a forester who turned activist-academic following "a series of disenchantments," has studied the discourses of radical environmentalism, its philosophical framework and the troubling aspects of how environmentalism is being construed. He has a PhD from McGill, and joined Concordia last fall.

This is part of a series of articles about the issue of globalization from the perspectives of Concordia professors and students.



ANDREW DOBROWOLSKYJ

Van Wyck mused about the FTAA summit in April: "I can't figure out whether one would get a better seat remotely or on the site."

History and Media intersect

Filmmaker Brian McKenna and Daniel J. Walkowitz, of New York University, will address the History in the Making conference this year. The event lasts all day on Saturday, March 17. Students will present their papers on a wide variety of topics, and the day begins and ends with the guest speakers.

Walkowitz is a professor of history and director of the Metropolitan Studies Program at NYU. His talk, called "Folk Dance, History and Videotape: Using Video Oral History in the Postmodern Era," will be at 9:30 a.m. in Room H-415.

McKenna, an alumnus who is well known for his documentaries (*the fifth estate*, *The Valour and The Horror*), will speak at 6:30 p.m. in the same location on "War and History: Notes from a Filmmaker."

Attendance at the symposium costs $5. It is sponsored by the Graduate Students of History at Concordia.

Colloque sur l'intermédialité

Le centre de recherche sur l'intermédialité (CRI) organise du 22 au 24 mars un colloque international intitulé La nouvelle Sphère intermédiatique III: Pratiques médiatiques de la manipulation identitaire. Le 23 mars à 20 heures à la salle H-937, Laura Mulvey , professeure au département de *Film and Media Studies* à Université Birbeck (Londres, U.K), tiendra la conférence suivante :

Criticism and Technology: Changing Approaches of the Analysis of Film.

L'entrée est gratuite pour les étudiants et de 5$ pour les non-inscrits au colloque.

Vous trouverez le programme complet du colloque à l'adresse : http://cri.histart.umontreal.ca.

Visiting speaker on British history

A distinguished British historian will visit Montreal over the next two weeks. Peter J. Marshall, immediate past president of the Royal Historical Society, Rhodes Professor of Imperial History at Kings College, University of London (1980-1998) and editor of *The Writing and Speeches of Edmund Burke*, will give several lectures here.

On Friday, March 23, at 12:45 p.m., he will be featured in a colloquium titled "Writing the History of Empire," in LB-608. On Tuesday, March 27, he will give a lecture at Marianopolis College on "History in Britain, 2001." That evening, he will lecture at McGill University (Leacock 808) on "The18th Century in Indian History: Revolution or Evolution?"

On Wednesday, March 28, he will speak at 4:15 p.m. in Room 507 of the Hall Building at Concordia on "Politics and the History of Empire."

Activists say elected leaders have failed

It's up to us to repatriate democratic debate

BY SIGALIT HOFFMAN

Globalization will not be a problem if ordinary citizens have input, two left-wing speakers told a Concordia audience last week.

UQAM sociology professor Dorval Brunelle and local publisher Dimitri Roussopoulos (Black Rose Books) spoke in the fifth lecture of a series sponsored by the Karl Polanyi Institute and School of Community and Public Affairs, both based at Concordia.

Both men warned that globalization is being negotiated behind closed doors. "They're so well equipped and so locked up, negotiating our democratic process," Brunelle mused.

Both had attended the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil, which was held in January, at the same time as the annual World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. This was an initiative aimed at exploring alternatives to globalization, and represented a switch from a reactive to a proactive approach.

"While in Davos, the elite spoke to the elite, in Porto Alegre, people met night and day to discover alternatives," Roussopoulos said. The forum's 12,000 delegates came from non-governmental organizations, trade unions, and political, urban and rural organizations worldwide.

Roussopoulos insisted that the forum's location was not a detail to be glossed over. The city itself is an example of the democracy he and Brunelle want to enshrine, and which they believe is threatened by globalization.

Ranked number one in 1996 and 1998 by the UN for having the best quality of life in Brazil, Porto Alegre is run by its citizens through neighbourhood committees. The system has been so successful that the left-wing political party that began the program has been re-elected three times, and has been in power for 12 years.

"There are fewer beggars in Porto Alegre than there are in Montreal," Roussopoulos said.

Representatives from more than 50 organizations signed resolutions after the forum. However, Brunelle and Roussopoulos preferred to dwell on the reasons for the forum rather than its outcome.

They said it was a chance to repatriate democratic debate, and a response to widespread disillusionment with the 1994 United Nations World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen, where 160 world leaders signed an agreement to eradicate poverty and pursue sustainable development.

Roussopoulos claimed that globalization has already begun to wreak havoc. In the last decade, international trade agreements grew by 55 per cent, while the gap between the rich and the poor widened.

Brunelle said that free trade between Canada and Brazil is a film behind which Canada can hide imperialist tactics. He referred to Canada's 12 billion dollars worth of investment in Chilean copper and forestry as the "first consequence of free trade," which he predicts will lead to "confrontation between Mapaches [Brazilian natives] and Canadian firms wanting to cut down their forest."

He referred to the 1994 agreement as "empty rhetoric" which has forced activists to adopt a different strategy.

"We can't give them the responsibility to arbitrate women's issues, aboriginal issues. They are not doing it properly," Brunelle said. "We cannot go back within the UN system."

This is part of a series of articles about the issue of globalization from the perspectives of Concordia professors and students.

The glamour and the horror of the prom dress

Two education professors nail our cultural expectations in a confessional film called Dress Fitting

BY JANE SHULMAN

Whether it was the best night of your life or the worst, just about everyone has a story to tell about her senior prom. Sandra Weber and Claudia Mitchell offer the chance to share those memories.

The two education professors (Weber at Concordia and Mitchell at McGill), have researched women's prom experiences for the last few years. They put them together in a film *Dress Fitting*, which had its Canadian premiere at the Simone de Beauvoir Institute's Feminist Film Festival a couple of weeks ago.

"When Claudia and I remembered our proms, we discovered that we had completely different experiences. Claudia had a fabulous time and it was one of the worst nights of my life," Weber said.

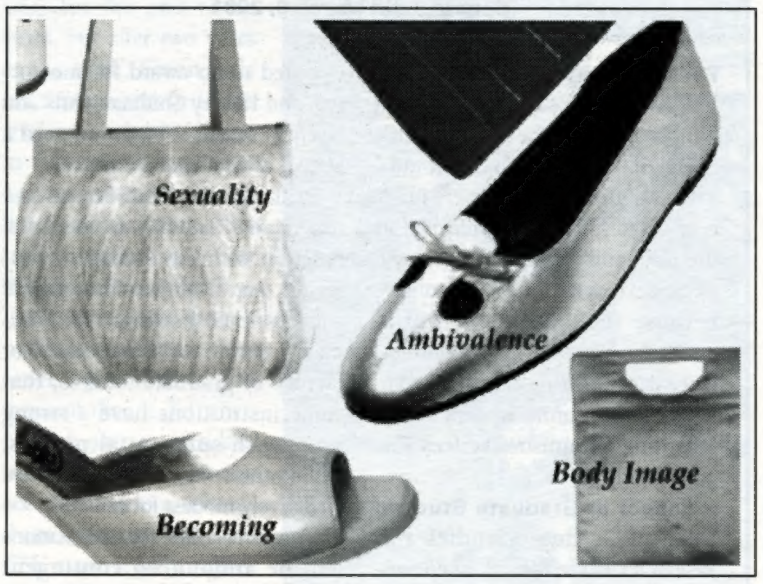
"We figured that if our experiences were so different, there were probably a whole range of stories and issues around the prom that we could look at."

That theme opened a Pandora's box of interesting ideas – body image, identity, sexuality, and mother/daughter relationships.

The "biggest night of a girl's life"

In *Dress Fitting*, Weber and Mitchell invited women to tell the story behind their prom dress. Some talk about not being able to find the dress of their dreams in their size, while others said their mothers wouldn't let them wear dresses deemed too revealing.

Juxtaposed with these first-person accounts are images of these women's dresses and photos from magazines that reinforce the notion that the prom is the biggest night of a girl's life.



"The prom tells so much about us," says Sandra Weber. These are some images from *Dress Fitting*.

Girls currently in high school reveal their expectations about the prom. One admits she is focusing on it because she is concerned about what awaits her after high school.

In the discussion that followed the screening, many viewers said the film jogged memories they hadn't shared in years, and there was a contagious urge to compare experiences.

Weber said that they never planned a film. She and Mitchell usually developed their work into books and research papers. They had often filmed meetings and interviews for documentation purposes, but the material they had collected for this project, including photos, magazine covers and the dresses themselves, were too vibrant to write up.

Multidisciplinary exploration

"We decided we didn't want to write a paper — the whole thing was just too visual," Weber explained.

Dress Fitting is part of a larger project looking at image, body and identity. A book and another film are in the works, as well as an installation art project. Weber and Mitchell have formed the Image and Identity Research Collective to generate more material.

"We're hoping to show how much an event like the prom can reveal about ourselves. How do we remember being adolescents, and how does that affect us in adult life?" Weber asked.

She says the film's purpose is twofold.

"First, to make parents see it with perspective and realize how much pressure it is for their kids, or ask themselves if their knee-jerk reactions come from their own experiences."

Second, she hopes the film speaks to teens who have not yet had their prom, and hopes they will think about the social and cultural aspects of the rituals.

Irving Layton visits Concordia

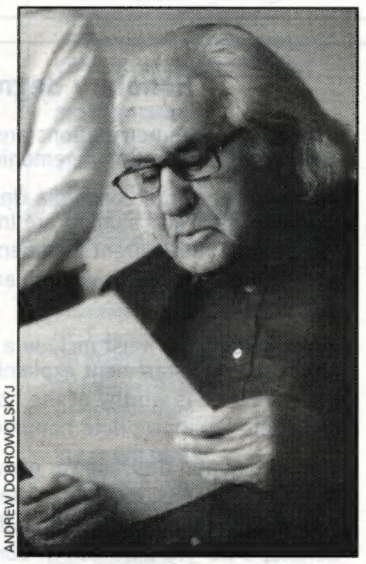
A quiet reception was held at the Faculty Club on the Loyola campus on March 1 to honour the great Canadian poet Irving Layton, and to acknowledge that another installment of his manuscripts, letters, tapes and other memorabilia has been acquired by the university.

Mr. Layton's connection with Concordia goes back to 1950, when he started teaching English part-time at its predecessor, Sir George Williams University. He continued to teach until 1964, and taught for another term at Concordia in 1978.

The poet was given an honorary degree at spring convocation in 1976, and he served as writer-in-residence in 1989. In 1988, the English Department inaugurated the Irving Layton Award for Creative Writing, and gives it annually to an outstanding student.

As early as 1964, Sir George started acquiring material from Mr. Layton, and this continued, largely under the direction of librarian Joy Bennett, who recently left the university. Several exhibits of Layton materials have been mounted over the years to show them to students and interested members of the public.

Mr. Layton is now in frail health and lives in a Montreal nursing home, but he enjoyed his outing to Concordia, and the company of some of his old friends. —*BB*



ANDREW DOBROWOLSKYJ

Irving Layton

names in the news

Concordia faculty, staff and alumni/ae pop up in the media more often than you might think!

Steven Appelbaum (Management) was quoted in a *Gazette* feature on the false promises of office cubicles. "If you still have an environment where everybody guards his or her own domain, and they still e-mail each other rather than talk, then all that openness is just an illusion," he said.

Michael Carney (Management) was quoted in the *ACI World Report*, a publication of the Airports Council Internaional. He gave a speech at the group's first conference in Santiago in which he traced 20 years of airport privatization.

Beverley McGuire (Music) and three other women make up Maeve, a Celtic-music group. A charming profile of the group appeared in the *Cornwall Standard-Freeholder* prior to a concert there in January.

A profile of **Roddy Ellias** (Music) appeared in the *Ottawa Citizen* in January in which the guitarist talks about his jazz and classical background. The writer, Richard Todd, recommends two CDs of Ellias's music, one with I Musici de Montréal, produced by Chandos, and the other recorded privately but available locally or through www.roddyellias.com.

Randy Phillips, who ably covers university sports for the *Gazette*, wrote a feature article on **Réal and Armel Kitieu**, both Concordia students and members of the Stingers men's basketball team. The brothers, who are from Cameroon, in Western Africa, didn't speak English or play basketball before coming here.

Patsy M. Lightbown (TESL) was widely interviewed in the francophone media, including on RDI's *Le Point* and CBFT-TV's *Montréal Ce Soir*, about the teaching of English as a second language after she made a presentation to the estates-general on the French language. *Le Point*, she reports, "had some great footage of high school students with almost no English and elementary school kids in intensive ESL classes (where we have done lots of research) speaking with confidence and pleasure. Great interviews with parents, as well." Her brief made the point that where second-language acquisition is concerned, youth is an advantage.

Susan Palmer (Religion) was quoted in a recent story in *Saturday Night* magazine about Raël, leader of one of Quebec's oddest and most successful cults. He is "extremely creative when it comes to theology," said Palmer, a longtime Raël-watcher. "He's an innovator, and a religious genius."

An examination of the contributions of Arctic explorer and pioneer ethnologist Vilhjalmur Stefansson in the *Ottawa Citizen* quoted **Richard Diubaldo** (History/Recruiting), author of *Stefansson and the Canadian Arctic (1978, 1998)*.

Corinne Jetté (Engineering/Computer Science) was interviewed on TVA (Channel 10) about the Native Access to Engineering e-learning project, which brings together Concordia, Native Affairs Canada and IBM-Canada.

Randy B. Swedburg (Applied Human Sciences) is an expert in participation in leisure activities. Interviewed on Global TV about the increase in attendance at movies, he pointed to changing Canadian demographics, specifically the aging Baby Boomers, and pointed out that the film industry has done many things to attract a varied audience.

Balbir Sahni (CIAC/Economics) and three Concordia students, Heather Baragar, Mitch Blobstein and Alain Giroux, were part of an interview on CFCF-TV's *Pulse* recently, talking about the International/Student Exchange Program and the new Mobility Bursaries.

Anouk Bélanger (Sociology/Anthropology) was quoted in the *Journal de Montréal* on the fascination exerted by Montreal's boxing Hilton family. Bélanger specializes in the sociology of sport and the media.

Candis Steenbergen, a PhD in the Humanities student, was one of those who asked a question on a recent CBC "national town hall" hosted by Peter Mansbridge. The idea of the program was to ask a panel of historians and commentators what event would have had the most significant change on Canadian history if it had turned out differently. Candis asked, "What if all women in Canada, regardless of marital status, wealth, education or colour had been accorded full rights to democratic citizenship when Canada was formed in 1867?"

Marc Gervais (Cinema) gave a talk on Alfred Hitchcock at the Musée des Beaux Arts on February 21, on film noir and the quest for personal fulfillment as seen in *North by Northwest*. He is teaching on a number of Irish films this year, thanks to the efforts of Ciné Gael Montreal. Their work was described by John Griffin recently in the *Gazette*.

The latest film by Cinema grad **Gary Burns**, *Waydowntown*, rated three-and-a-half stars in the *Gazette*, higher than most Hollywood efforts.

Adalbert Lallier, retired professor of Political Science, has been testifying for the prosecution in a well-publicized war crimes trial in Germany. Lallier, who was a 19-year-old concentration camp guard in 1945, says he saw German Waffen SS officer Julius Veil shoot seven Jewish prisoners in cold blood. Though Lallier claims he has risked his life to testify, the details of the incident remain uncertain as the trial continues.

Appointments

Andrew McAusland named Executive Director, IITS

Andrew McAusland, Director of Academic Technology in the Faculty of Arts and Science, has been appointed Executive Director, Instructional and Information Technology Services (IITS), effective March 5.

Andrew has been with Concordia since 1987, having previously worked as a systems and education consultant. He began his career at Concordia in the Faculty of Arts and Science, developing computer literacy educational courses.

In a variety of roles, he has successfully introduced a number of technological and information services to the academic community, and has been an innovator in the area of on-line course delivery (see page 8). He has made a number of speeches on distance education and digital imaging, and recently travelled to China to discuss research collaboration, student exchanges and academic technology transfer possibilities with institutions there.

In addition to his new role with IITS, McAusland will continue his work in the Faculty of Arts and Science. We wish him well.

In Memoriam

Mohammed Abdul Malik

We are saddened at the news that our former colleague, Mohammed Abdul Malik, died on March 7 while on a pilgrimage to Mecca.

Dr. Malik began a 30-year career at the university when he joined the Mathematics Department at Sir George Williams in 1967, after receiving his PhD at the Université de Montréal.

He was an active researcher in functional analysis, a scholar of the history of mathematics, and served the department in many administrative positions, including chair.

He will be remembered for his kindness, his passion for his discipline, and his love of teaching. He was particularly interested in the quality and content of our courses, and in making mathematics more accessible to students who are not mathematics specialists.

In the early 1990s the department adopted his fundamental modifications to the way we teach calculus by implementing what is known as the reform approach.

In the past few years, Dr. Malik was afflicted by a worsening case of Parkinson's disease. With a lot of courage and determination, he continued to teach, advise honours students, and direct students' theses, even after he opted for early retirement. He will be missed by his many colleagues and students.

Our sympathy goes to his family.

Dr. Joel Hillel
Chair, Mathematics and Statistics

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
3M Teaching Fellowships 2001

The Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE) and 3M Canada Inc. are pleased to announce the continuation of the 3M Fellows Program with up to 10 awards for 2001.

The Award
- a citation of excellence in recognition of exemplary contributions to teaching and learning
- a 3-day retreat at Chateau Montebello. All expenses are paid as part of the award

Eligibility
- open to anyone teaching at a Canadian university regardless of discipline or level of appointment

Criteria for the Award
- excellence in teaching over a number of years, principally (but not exclusively) at the undergraduate level, and
- commitment to the improvement of university teaching within the candidate's own institution and perhaps beyond

Nomination forms are available from:
the Office of the Vice-Rector (Academic),
or www.johnmolson.concordia.ca/stlhe

DEADLINE: MAY 11

senate notes

A regular meeting of the Concordia University Senate, held March 9, 2001

Performance contracts: Rector Frederick Lowy said that owing to a cabinet shuffle, the signing of this document with the education minister was delayed. However, Francois Legault has been confirmed in the post, and the signing may take place next week. In the meantime, because the university's future financing hinges on this contract, discussion of a motion to Senate from the Concordia Student Union regarding administrative fees was postponed.

School of Graduate Studies: Dean of Graduate Studies and Research Claude Bédard asked Senate to approve an award for mentoring that would complement the annual awarding of research fellowships by the School. Dean of Arts and Science Martin Singer said that Arts and Science Faculty Council is overwhelmingly opposed to an award for mentoring, and Harvey Shulman (Arts and Science) asked, Why do we need a School of Graduate Studies?

Dr. Lowy and Dean Bédard said that there is naturally an overlap in function with the Faculties themselves; that all universities grapple with this built-in tension, but ultimately decide to keep a school or faculty of graduate studies; that some institutions have a strong unit, with substantial powers, while others, like Concordia, have a relatively modest form.

(A new deadline for nominations will be announced contingent upon Senate approval of the Award.)

General education: A motion that would see the implementation by September 2002 of the plan for a general core education in Arts and Science was passed. The plan itself was accepted at the January meeting of Senate.

Internal budgeting: A set of principles was accepted that would guide internal budgeting in all aspects of the university, including both academic and support units. This essentially ties budget specifically to enrolment, and conforms to the new financing guidelines of the ministry of education.

Inter-university partnerships: A motion by Provost and Vice-Rector Research Jack Lightstone was passed that will establish protocols for shared programs and individual students who change institutions.

Professor Emeritus policy: All full professors who retire in good standing may use the designation "Professor Emeritus." A procedure was proposed to award some retiring professors the title "Distinguished Professor Emeritus." The composition of the committee was the subject of considerable debate, partly procedural. It was agreed that Arts and Science would have three representatives, one each for the humanities, sciences and social sciences, and that the other three Faculties would have one representative each. **Next meeting: April 6**

Correction In our last issue (March 1), we profiled Stephen Callary, who is advising the university on questions of intellectual property on a pro bono basis. Due to misleading information provided to CTR, there were some inaccuracies. Mr. Callary did not complete his PhD, and in his capacity as head of the federal government's Copyright Board, is no longer employed as a private consultant.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONI
INVITATION

11th Annual Alumni Recognition Awards Banquet

THURSDAY, APRIL 5
ST. JAMES'S CLUB, 1145 UNION AVENUE

Humberto Santos Award of Merit
Jonathan Wener, S BCom 71

Distinguished Service Award
John Freund, L BCom 64
Malcolm Renshaw, S BA 59
Claude St. Amour, L BA 63

Honorary Life Membership
Dr. John Wilfred O'Brien

Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching
Dr. Patsy Lightbown
Professor Randy Swedburg

Outstanding Student Award
Vince Labossière, BSc 00,
Dip Sports Administration

Cocktails, 6:30 p.m., Dinner, 7:30 p.m. $55 per person, $500 for a table of 10.

RSVP, 848-3818 by March 21 to Stephanie Brown, Office of University Advancement and Alumni Relations.

Honorary degree nominations

Honorary degree nominations are being sought for the 2001-2002 convocation ceremonies.

All members of the Concordia University community (faculty, students, staff and alumni) are invited to submit nominations. Please note that current members of the faculty, the administration or the Board of Governors are not eligible to receive honorary degrees.

Every nomination must include a detailed curriculum vitae and a succinct statement explaining (i) why the nominator thinks the candidate is worthy of the honour, and (ii) what makes the candidate an appropriate honorand for Concordia University.

The nomination deadline for convocation ceremonies is April 12. Nomination forms, including criteria, are available from Heather Adams-Robinette, in the Office of the Board of Governors and Senate, S-BC-319 (848-4853). Completed forms should be submitted to her attention as Secretary of the Graduation Ceremonies Committee.

Concordia's Thursday Report

Concordia's Thursday Report
is the community newspaper
of the University. It is published
18 times during the academic year
on a bi-weekly basis by the
Public Relations Department
of Concordia University,
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.,
Montréal, Québec H3G 1M8
(514) 848-4882
E-mail: barblak@alcor.concordia.ca
Fax: (514) 848-2814
http://pr.concordia.ca/ctr/

Material published in the newspaper may not be reproduced without permission. ***The Back Page*** listings are published free of charge. Events, Notices, and Classified Ads must reach the Public Relations Department (Bishop Court, 1463 Bishop St., Room 115) in writing no later than Thursday 5 p.m. prior to Thursday publication.

ISSN 1185-3689

Publications Mail Agreement No.: 1758594

Editor
Barbara Black

Layout
Debbie Hum

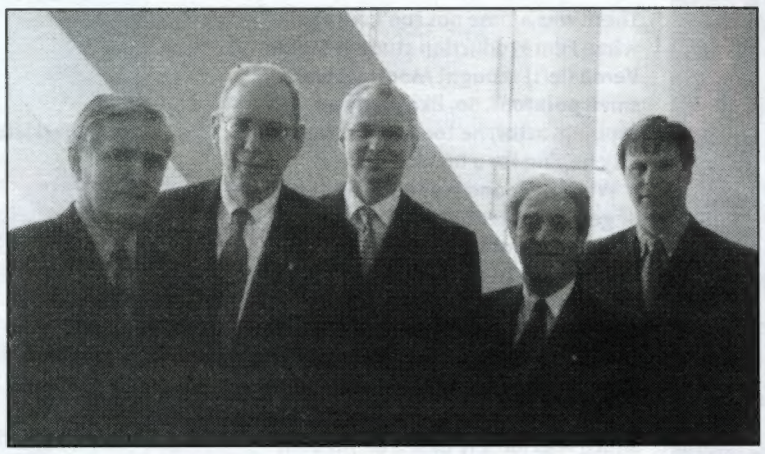
Concept and Production
Elana Trager
Marketing Communications

World Wide Web Site
pr.concordia.ca/ctr/

Concordia UNIVERSITY

Singer responds to the Gazette for implied criticism of China trip

Dean of Arts and Science Martin Singer wrote the following essay to the Gazette in answer to an article published February 16 and titled "Concordia seals deals with China."



Seen in China last month as part of the Team Canada mission, left to right, Vice-Rector Institutional Relations and Secretary-General Marcel Danis, Dean Martin Singer, André Desmarais (BCom 78), of Power Corporation, Rector Frederick Lowy, and Peter Kruyt (BCom 78), of Power Broadcasting and a Concordia governor.

I was asked to participate in the February 8-17 Team Canada delegation to China both because of my position as Dean of Concordia's largest Faculty and because of my 35 years of experience as a Sinologist, which has led to the publication of two books on China-Canada academic relations.

Let me begin by saying that I think that the visit was a success. Canada is a relatively small player in China compared to such financial powerhouses as the United States and Japan. The presence of the prime minister and nine provincial premiers gave Canada higher visibility in China. It also gives a competitive edge to Canadians doing business in China, with beneficial results for the Canadian economy and for Canadian employment.

Philosophical and social differences

On the issue of human rights in China, there are three points to make.

First, China's long history and rich culture (as well as that of many other Asian countries) have emphasized the rights of the group and the responsibilities of the individual to the group. This is very different from the Western emphasis on the rights of the individual and the protection of those rights from violation by the group. In assessing China's human rights record by a Western standard, one cannot ignore the weight of this philosophical and social difference.

Second, China is a proud country whose people suffered more than 100 years as victims of Western imperialist powers that claimed to be more civilized than China, but nevertheless treated the Chinese people with contempt. To this day, China finds it difficult to accept Western lectures on moral issues (including human rights) as more than self-serving hypocrisy, particularly given the domestic human rights records of those countries.

Third, China has made remarkable progress in improving the living conditions and extending the freedom of its people. I say this from the perspective of someone who has been visiting China for more than 25 years and is in frequent contact with Chinese academics. One should take this remarkable progress into account when looking at China's human rights profile.

In the above context, China is not likely to respond positively to public lectures from Canada on human rights in China, any more than Canada would respond positively to international criticism of human rights problems in Canada. Private conversations are more likely to prove effective in such matters.

Universities play leading role

Canadian universities and colleges have played a leading role in the development of Canada's relations with China over the past 30 years. During the 1970s and early 1980s, academic and cultural contacts were the principal means of contact between the two countries. These early contacts operated at the level of people-to-people and institution-to-institution and were remarkably successful, at least in part because they avoided politics and political rhetoric.

The Chinese academics who returned to China after a period of study in Canada became our best ambassadors. Similarly, Canadian academics with experience in China gave us much greater insight into China than we had gained during the period of the so-called Cultural Revolution, when China isolated itself from outside contact. When China began opening up to Western business, it was the Canadian experience in academic exchanges with China that produced the expertise and the contacts that have been at the foundation of the Canada/China relationship over the past 15 years.

Academic co-operation vital

The extraordinary level of Canadian university participation in this Team Canada mission suggests that academic co-operation is still a vital part of the Canada/China relationship. This is certainly reflected in the decision of Prime Minister Chrétien and Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji to meet with Canadian and Chinese university presidents and vice-presidents in Beijing on the eve of the Team Canada visit. The concerns raised at this meeting (in which I participated) focused on important academic issues and left political discussion to the government officials.

Finally, I take issue with describing an agreement of co-operation between a Canadian and a Chinese university as a "deal," which implies a motive of profit that is inappropriate. Canadians should be proud of our country's contribution to China's modernization and of our efforts to build on past accomplishments through mechanisms such as Team Canada visits. The results, particularly for universities, are likely to be of long-range mutual benefit.

Martin Singer,
Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science

NOMINATIONS

Spring 2001 Convocation medals and awards

Graduating students (Fall 00 and Spring 01) may be nominated for the following:

The Concordia Medal, The Malone Medal, The O'Brien Medal, The Stanley G. French Medal

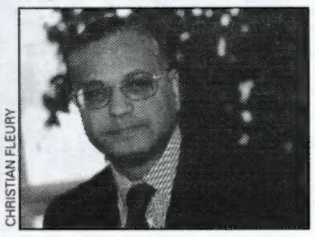
The First Graduating Class Award is presented to a person who has made the most innovative contribution, academic or extracurricular, to university life. It is open to all members of the university community.

Nomination forms and criteria are available from the Dean of Students Offices (SGW and LOY) and the Birks Student Service Centre (SGW). The deadline for nominations is March 23. They should be sent to the Office of the Registrar, SGW-LB-700, Attention: H. Albert.

Business professors Ibrahim and Laroche win national honours

Two professors from the John Molson School of Business were honoured at a reception recently, when A. Bakr Ibrahim was awarded the CIBC Distinguished Professorship in Family Business, and Michel Laroche was given the Royal Bank Distinguished Professorship in Marketing.

Bakr Ibrahim is Professor of Management and Associate Dean, Administrative Affairs and Human Resources, in the Molson School of Business. He was unanimously selected by a committee of his peers for the research endowment, which was created last year through a generous $500,000 endowment from the CIBC. The appointment is for a five-year period.



CHRISTIAN FLEURY

A. Bakr Ibrahim

CHRISTIAN FLEURY

Michel Laroche

Under Dr. Ibrahim's direction, the endowment will be used to fund research in the field, and finance an annual Research Forum that will bring together participants from industry and academia. Dr. Ibrahim also has research interests in strategic management, small business and entrepreneurship. He is a Fellow of the Family Enterprise Institute and has authored several books and articles.

The award won by Professor of Marketing Michel Laroche —the latest of many — was established last year by a $550,000 donation from the Royal Bank. The appointment, for a five-year period, will allow Dr. Laroche to intensify scholarly activity in his department.

It will finance the Royal Bank Research Seminar, which will be held in September, and will focus on the influence culture and cultural change have on consumerism and the marketing of services. The Distinguished Professorship will also help fund the Royal Bank Distinguished Visiting Speakers series; the first event will be held in April and will be open to the public.

Dr. Laroche's main research interests are in communication, consumer behaviour modelling, cross-cultural marketing and research methodology. Earlier this year, he was named a Concordia University Research Fellow Award for 2000. He received the Jacques-Rousseau Prize in 2000 for being the best multidisciplinary researcher in Canada, and he is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and of the American Psychological Association.

Congratulations to them both.

Ned Goodman Chair in Finance Seminar

George G. Kaufman will give this seminar on Monday, March 19, from 10:30 am to noon in the J.A. DeSève Cinema, in the McConnell Building. Professor Kaufman is John F. Smith Professor of Economics at Loyola University in Chicago.

His presentation is based on his co-authored paper, "Post-resolution treatment of depositors at failed banks: Implications for the severity of banking crises, systemic risk, and too-big-to-fail." For a full electronic copy of this paper, please contact Professor Lawrence Kryzanowski, at lkryzan@vax2.concordia.ca.

Silas Katz Memorial Scholarship

Applications are invited for this scholarship, which was first awarded in 1984. It was made possible through donations from family, friends, faculty and staff in memory of Dr. Silas Katz, Professor of Mechanical Engineering.

It is open to students in the undergraduate program of the Department. Consideration will be given to students who are mature and self-supporting, who maintain good academic performance, and who have completed between 30 and 90 credits.

Applications should be sent to Dr. I. Stiharu, chair of the advisory committee, CR-211. Tel: 848-3152, Fax: 848-8635, e-mail: istih@vax2.concordia.ca). The deadline is March 30. Recipients will be notified before April 10, when the awards will be made.

Helen Prize awarded in Finland

The Helen Prize for Humanitarian Works, which has been given annually for three years, was awarded on March 8 in Finland to 19 women. Kirsten Paltto, of Finalnd, won the $5,000 cash prize.

In the past, the Helen Prize has been presented at Concordia. It is being given in Europe this year because most of the recipients are from there.

Concordia Education Professor Arpi Hamalian is president of the Helen Prize board of directors, and Études francaises professor Maïr Verthuy was on the adjudicating board.

Art Matters festival was a real education for organizers

BY ANNA BRATULIC

It's been a long five months. Michael Golden and the other co-Art Matters organizers — Julie Fowler, Ruthie Sumiko Tabata and Yael Wand, as well as a slew of other people — have been working hard since October trying to make the student-initiated arts festival a reality.

The festival, which commemorates the 25th anniversary of the Faculty of Fine Arts, is intended to showcase visual and performance art works from Concordia students in a professional setting.

Over 14 days, March 5-18, the festival has shown more than 80 projects in at least eight venues by some 400 students in all the arts disciplines — film, theatre, painting, sculpture, photography, music, etc

"For the next group who decide to do this project: Don't take a full course load. This is not a job for a student," advised Golden.

He said that while the festival has been an incomparable learning experience, the work required to organize it was physically and mentally exhausting. Endless meetings, continuous requests for funding and lots of stress have had to be juggled with the demands of university studies.

Nevertheless, Golden feels that any blunders the Art Matters team may have experienced this year will only simplify things for their successors. "If we could do this again, it would be so much easier, we would be able to sleep more," he said with a sigh.

Golden, whose own artistic contribution to the festival was a jazz vocal performance, took in a few shows and is impressed by the talent.

"I was inspired," he said, referring to a play called *Swim* by student Emily Follet-Campbell. "I remember sitting there watching the actors and thinking, Maybe I'll be an actor."

There were moments that were slightly less pleasant, like the time a student spectator burst into a two-minute tirade at the VAV Gallery about how the festival was a waste of time and university resources, and how the quality of the works left much to be desired.

"I just looked at her, handed her a festival program, and said, 'I'm really sorry.' It just showed one of the major things I've learned during the festival, and that is, you can't please everyone."

The real satisfaction would come from establishing a legacy, an annual arts festival that keeps on growing after the original participants have graduated. Golden thinks it should become a paid position.

"It attracts artists from all over, it attracts media attention, it raises the profile of the university. Concordia is really lucky we did this," he said.

Art Matters will wrap up with a gala featuring festival highlights, guest speakers and refreshments tomorrow night at 8:30 in the Oscar Peterson Concert Hall. An informal reception will kick it off in the Hive at 7. All are invited.

ANDREW DOBROWOLSKYJ

From small potatoes to the Big Apple

There was a time not too long ago when Film Production student Stefan Verna (left) thought Montreal was small potatoes. So, like many an aspiring actor, he took off for New York City hoping for a break.

What he found was a concentrated hub of genuine talent swimming everywhere. "It was a humbling experience," said Verna of his two years there. For the Art Matters festival, Verna screened *Chocolate City* at the DeSève Cinema.

It's a film about a jazz musician who dreams of success in the Big Apple. Verna wrote, produced and directed the piece, which was loosely based on his own experiences.

Love of books inspired make-your-own show

From hand-made books and installations to a digital bible

BY KARINE HÉBERT

The organizers of *Overdue*, the book-making show that took place from February 5-10 at the VAV art gallery, estimate that about 650 people visited the show during the week.

"Tons of people came! It was one of the busiest vernissage this year," said Gaile Addison, a third-year Fine Arts student. The other organizers were Beth Stuart, second-year Fine Arts, and Joni Murphy, second-year Creative Writing.

There were four days of workshops on bookbinding, letterpress, computerized book layout, storytelling games, talks by small press operators, and readings by Montreal writers.

More than 120 books were shown by about 70 participants, most of them students. They included small-press books, hand-made books, and installations, such as a book the size of a door that could be opened, a heavy metal book, a "corset book" and a digital bible.

Gaile said, "People were very responsive. We didn't expect so many! It was a lot of work to keep track of everything."

The art gallery was set up as a home space, with furnished rooms. Joni explained, "We categorized the books according to what kind of books go in a bedroom, in a living room, and so on."

Gaile continued, "We wanted to put books in an environment where people could look at them in a more relaxed way, in a living environment."

ANDREW DOBROWOLSKYJ

***Overdue* organizers Gaile Addison (left), Beth Stuart (right).**

Visitors were allowed to pick up the books and read them.

"Since it was a very friendly environment and there were so many books, many people came back more than once," Gaile said. Many of the artists donated their books after the show.

It was their common love for books that led the three students to organize the show.

"Books are something anybody can make," Gaile said. "They're less scary to make than paintings. They are more private."

"People are freer to do what they want, and less afraid of not doing it the right way," Joni added.

NATIONAL EN
AT CONCORDI

Annual Building Competition

More than 30 teams, local, national and international, took part in the 17th annual Bridge Building competition that was the climax of National Engineering Week at Concordia last week.

This year's winning bridge came from the team from Ryerson Polytechnical University, in Toronto, but Concordia's team put in its usual valiant effort.
The idea is to construct the strongest bridge possible, using only popsicle sticks, toothpicks, white glue and dental floss. Bridges are judged on their resistance, aesthetics and originality. As you can see, the competitio is fierce.

After the bridges' re applying "The Crusher they like with their cre

Women in Engineering Conference

More women are becoming engineers now than eve before, but the profession has a long history to overcome o being a club for boys only, and Concordia's engineerin students are working to see that change.
The Engineering and Computer Science Student Association (ECA) launched National Engineering Week b playing host to nearly 100 girls from several Montreal hig schools and CEGEPs at the Women in Engineerin Conference last week. ECA says that since launching thi event in 1993, there has been a steady increase in femal enrolment in engineering at Concordia.
Students toured the SGW campus, participated in grou discussions with women engineers, tried bridge-building and made insulated boxes for eggs so that they wouldn break in an egg toss competition. At right, visitors look at model of an airplane engine turbine. *–JS*

Black Engineers' grou

BY JANE SHULMAN

When Tanya Stephens was thinking about becoming an engineer, she didn't have to look far for a role model. Her brother was already in an engineering program.

He had also joined the McGill chapter of the National Association of Black Engineers, a group that encourages and supports engineers from minority groups and people interested in becoming engineers.

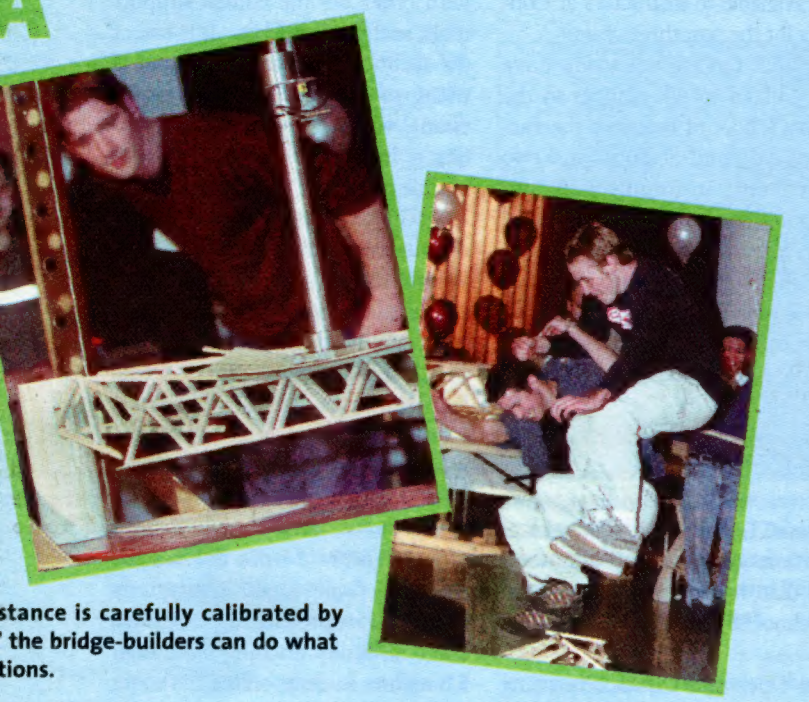
"He was a role model for me, and I knew I wasn't alone," Stephens said. She followed in her brother's footsteps, enrolling in an engineering program at Concordia, and she also joined NSBE, so she could meet other people from minority groups who were studying engineering.

"A large part of NSBE mission is to get more people involved in engineering and science," said Stephens, who is now the group's treasurer. She noted that people in the black community are often discouraged from taking post-secondary science and math classes, often because there is no one to tell them they are capable of succeeding in those fields.

Fritz-Edwin Jocelyn, Concordia NSBE's president and a third-year engineering student, agreed. "People get misinformation about engineering," he said. "They hear from friends that math and physics are hard, then they are discouraged from looking into engineering and make poor choices. They need to know they can do it, too."

Concordia's NSBE chapter started last year, and now has about 40 members. Before that, Concordia students

GINEERING WEEK
A



stance is carefully calibrated by
' the bridge-builders can do what
tions.

PHOTOS BY ANDREW DOBROWOLSKYJ

Fighting it out for cash prizes in the Robowars sweepstakes

BY JOSEPH BERGER

Robots invaded the lobby of the McConnell Building last Thursday.

With help from Concordia's Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), the Robowars student committee invited robotics students from across Quebec to take part.

At one time an annual event, Robowars has not been held at Concordia since 1998. Last June, though, engineering students David-John Palazzo, vice-chair of IEEE Concordia, and Mario Ciaramicoli, president of the Engineering and Computer Science Association, participated in a robotics competition in Calgary.

"They had stopped holding the event because of a lack of people to organize it," said organizer Cedric Viou, "but last year, David went to Calgary and decided to bring Robowars back here so people can enjoy it."

Viou, a Concordia exchange student from France, explained the two types of competition. "For the Solar Roller, people have to build a small robot that is powered only by solar energy," he said. "The robot must fit inside a 10-by-10-centimetre box. The winner is the first robot that gets to the other end of the track."

The key lies in the design. "They have to try to make a very light robot, using big enough solar panels and as few electronics components as possible, to make the robot a little smarter," Viou explained.

Robot sumo wrestling is the invention of a Japanese scientist, Dr. Mato Hattori. The contest involves two robots trying to forcefully remove each other from a wooden plank measuring 1.8 metres in diameter. The robots, which came in both the radio-controlled and "autonomous" varieties, were not allowed to fatally wound each other.

"The sumo robots are in a ring, and they have to push their opponent out of that ring just by contact," Viou explained. "No chemical weapons or that kind of stuff, just robots," he added with a chuckle.

The teams were given points for a variety of criteria: aesthetics, strategy, ability and design, with winner walking away with a cool $1,000 for the Sumo Wrestling and $500 for the Solar Roller.

Charles Alex took home the big prize in the Sumo category, while Enia Tee, a Concordia Arts student, was the Solar Roller champion. Sumo Wrestling runners-up Jason Levine, Jacob Shenker and Richard Dias, all from Westmount's St. George's high school, were confident.

"We are going to win because we have massive amounts of torque which are delivered to our robots by two old Mercedes Benz power window motors," said Levine, prior to the competition. "This is the only robot here powered by authentic German automobile parts," he added.

Alas, the German engineering was only good enough for a second-place finish.

Jeffrey Yong
(Electrical Engineering)
inspects his robotics solar car.

Enrolment in Building Engineering is expected to double

As the result of an agreement with Hunan University, the Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering (BCE) should see about 30 Chinese students joining the department as early as next year.

They would be all, or nearly all, in first-year Building Engineering, and would be integrated into regular classes, presuming they meet the requirements for admission to the program and pass the usual English-proficiency test for international students.

Professor Osama Moselhi, chair of BCE, is clearly delighted with the prospect of nearly redoubling enrolment in the Building Engineering program. It had already doubled from 18 in 1997 to 38, where it has been holding steady for some time.

When he met with the Hunan University officials, Moselhi said, he could see that their first-choice destination for students who wanted to study abroad is the United States. However, "they are concerned with a safe environment, and Canada is perceived to be safe, as well as being an entry to North America," he said. Hunan already has a similar agreement with the University of Regina.

Despite a relative slump across North America in the huge infrastructure projects that require large numbers of civil engineers, Moselhi said that his department's Civil Engineering program is probably "the healthiest in the province." He attributes this to a redesign of the program, the increased availability of academic advisors, and an active Web site.

A similar interest by prospective students is reflected in the enrolment in Environmental Engineering, thanks in part to two excellent full-time professors, Catherine Mulligan and Maria Elektorowicz.

As part of its share in a $15.6-million Canada Foundation for Innovation grant to the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, BCE has five new labs, and there are plans to introduce an option in information technology to the BCE degree program. —*BB*

provides role models, support for minorities

interested in joining the organization, which boasts a membership of more than 15,000 students in North America, had to join the chapter at McGill.

Founded in 1975, NSBE is the largest student organization in the United States. Part of its mandate is to increase the number of culturally aware professionals.

NSBE promotes academic excellence and community involvement. This includes encouraging young people of colour to learn more about engineering, with the hope of bolstering the number of engineers from minority groups. As it stands, there are few black engineers, and even fewer black women engineers.

Through mentoring, tutoring and community outreach, NSBE members spread the word that engineering isn't as impenetrable a field as its reputation may suggest. NSBE members talk with high school students and let them know that engineering is a viable option for them.

"We give talks on the digital divide — how people who are financially disadvantaged don't become part of the technology wave. As engineers, that's our business, so we have to make sure we're up to speed."

Although its name suggests otherwise, members don't have to be black, and they don't even have to be engineers. They just have to have a desire to encourage young people to do their best.

The name is a bit misleading," Jocelyn acknowledged. "The reason they kept the name even after the organization wasn't only for black engineers was out of respect for the people who started NSBE."

ROSALIND RADDATZ

Left to right are Tanya Stephens, Ralph Chéry (seated below), Kapinga Mbuy (at top), Chantelle Brown, Fritz-Edwin Jocelyn and Claude Mukam.

The group does fundraising, too, so that they can send members to NSBE's regional and national conferences. Twelve students will represent Concordia's chapter at this year's national conference in Indianapolis on March 14.

The conference is an opportunity for members to connect with their peers from across Canada and the United States. It's an opportunity for members to see what NSBE is all about.

"I went to the regional conference last year," said Ayana Goin, another engineering student and NSBE member. "It was mind-blowing to see all those people! It makes you feel like you're not alone, which can happen sometimes when you look around classes. There are few women, and almost no women of colour,"" she said.

"People in the community want us to succeed, to reach others and to be a support," Stephens said. "One of the nicest parts of NSBE is the support system."

Goin agreed: "It shows you that people have done this before you."

CALL FOR PAPERS

Canadian Society for Mechanical Engineering
International Conference on Multidisciplinary Design in Engineering
CSME-MDE 2001, November 21-22

Concordia University, Co-chairs: R.B. Bhat and H. Moustapha

For more information, please call the conference secretariat, at 848-7905, or contact bencheik@me.concordia.ca.

Clarica Card service is expected to improve: Robert Lacasse

There was a spirited exchange on the university newsgroup Shoptalk recently about some glitches in implementing the Clarica Assure Direct Pay and Emergency Travel Card system, introduced in November.

The card, which is handled by BCE Emergis, is designed to bypass the paperwork previously required to receive a reimbursement for most eligible drug expenses, i.e. drugs listed on the RAMQ listing.

Through the card, you should also be able to find out right away what proportion of your purchase is covered by the plan and how much you will be reimbursed by the Concordia Health Insurance plan.

Here's how the new system works

You give your card with your prescription to any participating pharmacist in Canada. The pharmacist enters the data from your card and your prescription into the computer system. Within seconds, this data is electronically processed.

You pay the total cost of the claim to the pharmacist. He or she will give you a receipt showing your portion of the cost and the plan's portion.

You have no claim form to complete. You will receive a reimbursement cheque at a later date from BCE Emergis, on behalf of Clarica, in 90 days, or as soon as your accumulated unpaid reimbursement amount reaches $150, whichever comes first.

The card is valid for you and for any eligible dependents that you registered during the first registration campaign last July.

A reminder to register eligible dependents was sent out in November and employees were asked to fill out a Registration of Eligible Dependents form to submit to Benefits Services. As mentioned in the documentation, claims for dependents who are not properly registered will be rejected.

The Assure Card can be used only for drugs on the province's RAMQ list. The plan covers these drugs at 80 per cent of the first $2,000 of eligible expenses per calendar year and 100 per cent thereafter, for the balance of the year.

To obtain a reimbursement for drugs not on the RAMQ list, you must complete and submit the regular Clarica form, available from Clarica. The plan covers these drugs at 50 per cent. You will receive a reimbursement by mail in the same way as you would for any non-drug claim.

Accurate information about claimants and their dependents will help to ensure that claims are processed quickly and efficiently.

Dealing with growing pains

Robert Lacasse, Manager of Compensation and Benefits (Human Resources/Employee Relations), explains how he has been dealing with the program's growing pains:

In line with the orientation set out by the Concordia Employee Benefits Committee and as part of the agreement with Clarica, the university took on the responsibility for registering dependents eligible for the plan. The university was also responsible for upgrading the computer systems and electronic interface with Clarica to manage the card system.

There have been some problems on both levels. The employee response to the solicitation drives was weak. Some employees did not respond at all or responded very late, and many failed to provide complete information and to register their dependents. Because the default for Clarica card users is "single," employees who failed to register their dependents in the new system, but whose dependents had been previously covered under the old one, found that their claims for dependents were denied.

Difficulties with rapidly interfacing the university and Clarica systems slowed the processing of the refused claims, adding to the frustration and anger of some employees. Benefits Service has been inundated with phone calls at a time when major projects stemming from the part-time faculty health plan and ACUMAE dental plan are also being introduced. There have also been problems with updating lists of retirees and part-time faculty eligible for benefits under the card program.

A review of the claim administration system and data reporting was done. New staff were added to the Benefits Service; the non-pension benefits team is now composed of four employees and is led by Senior Benefits Officer Nicole Desrochers. As a result, service is expected to improve quickly.

We are also planning to improve the way we communicate benefits information. We are doing all we can to ensure that claims are processed efficiently.

If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact me at (514) 848 3675 or by e-mail: rlacasse@alcor.concordia.ca, or call Clarica: (514) 848-6003; outside Montreal: 1- 800 - 463-3572. Benefit Services: Nicole Desrochers at 848-3661 or nicoled@alcor.concordia.ca. Please forward your Clarica card system questions to Nicole Desrochers by e-mail at: nicoled@alcor.concordia.ca.

Concordia hosts first WebCT forum

BY ROGER KENNER

On February 20, Concordia's Department of Instructional and Information Technology Services hosted Montreal's first informal get-together of local WebCT administrators and technical staff. Representatives of each of the four universities of the city were present, along with one WebCT administrator from the CEGEP-level.

Common problems and solutions to meeting the ever-growing demand for the WebCT (Web Course Tools) service at the four universities were discussed at the three-hour open forum. Joint protocols for sharing information were established, as well as a plan to continue meeting. Hosting of the event will rotate among the universities, and meetings will be called three times annually.

WebCT is a very popular software package that provides a framework for instructors to place components of their course on the Web. It has been available to instructors at Concordia for the past three years.

WebCT course accounts have been created for all courses in the Molson School of Business, the Faculty of Arts and Science, and two departments in Engineering and Computer Science — a total of some 6,000 accounts. So far, instructors have logged into about 1,000 of these course-shells, with approximately 300 making active use of the product. All student accounts are generated automatically.

Also, an ongoing project within the School of Business allows for electronic submission of final grades via WebCT. This is the fifth term of electronic-grades submission, and more than half of the instructors in the School of Business are participating.

The Open and Distance Learning Office of IITS provides faculty support for the use of the WebCT service. WebCT can also be integrated with other on-line course support tools, such as First Class. It is one of the technologies that Concordia is using to support the McConnell Grant, whose objective is to train faculty in the use of technology and on-line pedagogy.

McGill University, the University of Montreal and UQAM also offer WebCT to their professors, and provide similar programs for their faculty. It was this common experience which led Concordia to host this first joint session. For the Montreal area, Concordia fulfills the role of recognized WebCT training institute.

Many of the universities in Canada offer WebCT. Across the world, there are some 1,500 institutions using it, representing roughly 150,000 faculty teaching more than 5.8 million students online.

Roger Kenner is the Coordinator of Research and Development in IITS.

Value-added learning through high tech

Videotaping courses is just the beginning of interactive process

BY JANE SHULMAN

Concordia is making the most of advancements in academic technology by integrating the Internet in courses and offering professors interactive tools that will help them reach more students.

By the end of next year, Andrew McAusland, Director of Academic Technology in the Faculty of Arts and Science and new Executive Director of IITS, says that 40 to 45 per cent of courses in the Faculty will have an online presence.

Some will have the course syllabus posted, opening up the possibility for professors to add other material in future. Others will have additional course material, links and resources, and several (35-40) course Web sites will have video feeds available for students to view lectures online.

"The idea is to have a presence and then build on it," McAusland explained. Professors will have access to the Web regardless of the computer platform they use to paste and upload information to the Web sites for students to use. Professors can add to or change the information whenever they like.

McAusland explained that students now expect more from their courses, and Concordia's answer is to create an "added-value marketplace," offering students video lectures or extra material to enhance their learning.

Making class time more productive

This kind of value-added course is different from distance learning, which has no class time, and relies solely on video and online resources. The value-added philosophy centres on making class time more productive for students and making it easier for them to find information beyond the course itself.

"In the added-value market, students pay attention, take fewer notes and are perhaps more engaged in the lecture because they know they can have another crack at it," McAusland observed.When students are better acquainted with the course material, "it creates a context for more questions the following week, and it's in fact more interactive in a live sense."

Video lectures enhance learning

There are nearly 900 hours of video online at this point, mostly from history, political science, pyschology and statistics courses. Academic Technology is filming 10 courses this term, and lectures are posted within 12 hours of being recorded.

The lectures are indexed, so that students can find specific parts of lectures that they would like to hear, or they can listen to lectures from beginning to end.

McAusland said that this technology even benefits people who don't have their own computers. There are 65 terminals for students to use at Loyola, as well as an Arts and Science Learning Centre at SGW. When the Learning Centre opens in May 2001, both labs will have extended hours for students with full schedules.

Reeta Tremblay, chair of Political Science, said that students in her department are responding well to the integration of the Internet in several of the department's courses.

She said that Political Science, a department with an open-door policy and 1,100 students of different backgrounds, is an ideal place to use this technology.

"Our objective is to bring students up to speed, and give them an opportunity to learn at a slower pace if they want to," Tremblay said.

Her department offers both Web-assisted and distance learning courses. The Web-assisted courses are divided in half. Each week, there is a videotaped lecture that students watch online, and a conference class, where students meet to discuss the readings. Distance learning classes are held entirely online, except for exams, which are written at the university.

Tremblay said that students tend to perform better and earn higher grades in Web-assisted classes than in traditional classroom-based courses, probably because they are able to move at their own pace and access the material whenever they need to. She said students' readings are at more advanced levels, and their discussions on online message boards, another component of the courses, tend to be more sophisticated.

While some professors might be concerned that being filmed will cramp their style, McAusland said it's important that professors teach as they would normally, and try to forget that the camera is there.

"The professor does nothing different. We just videotape the lectures and let them use their expertise," McAusland said.

"Too often professors sacrifice their expertise by changing their pedagogical approach to suit a particular technology. They can think about developing the site afterwards, but the video serves as the core — it represents the teaching itself."

Green feels his two terms raised issues, awareness

Slates announced this week for CSU election

BY DAVID WEATHERALL

"I've been a very controversial president, and that's been a conscientious decision on my behalf," said CSU president Rob Green in his office last Monday. "But whether they love me or hate me, at least they're talking about issues that the CSU feels are important."

By creating such controversy Green feels he has contributed to raising awareness among students about school politics.

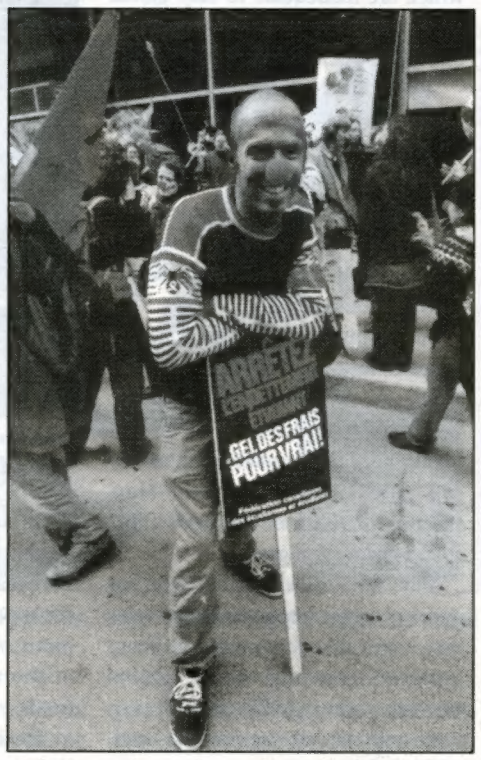
"Most students two years ago didn't know that the CSU existed. I'd say you'd be hard pressed to find a student these days that doesn't have an opinion on something we've done. I'm very encouraged by that, and I hope it continues."

The current president, who has decided not to run in this spring's annual CSU elections, took a moment to talk about his past two years as president and what direction he'd like the CSU to continue in.

"I think accreditation is the biggest legacy that I'll leave behind. Raising the BioChem [Pharma] issue, kicking Zoom Media out of the school and programs like the People's Potato are all accomplishments I'm very proud of. It's certainly more than any other past president of the CSU has been able to do."

Green has been involved with the CSU for the past three years, but after two years at the helm, Green feels it's time to return to his studies. He has a degree in religion and has taken a course at a time to keep his student status. "It's time to move on — not that it hasn't been fun."

He steps down from a position that holds a lot more power at the moment than it did when he took over as president in 1999. After gaining accreditation in a referendum held this fall, the CSU now legally represents all students at Concordia and as such, has an immense responsibility to fulfill to its 25,000 constituents.



FILE PHOTO

Rob Green dressed as a clown for a protest.

That's not the only change facing presidential hopefuls this spring. Students running in this year's election will do so under a revised electoral process that raised some initial concerns for Green. Under the old system, students would vote for a presidential candidate who, once elected, could then recommend a council. Under the new bylaws, those wishing to run for president will do so on a slate that contains a minimum of three other members running for positions on council.

"I was concerned that because of the new slate system and the need for candidates to be more organized in their preparation, there could be a decline in competition, but I'm very optimistic about the new system so far."

Voting will take place over March 26, 27 and 28.

Student referendum questions

To date, there are 15 referendum questions on the ballot. One calls on the university administration "to refuse any application for the position of Rector by current Vice-Rector Research and Provost Jack Lightstone due to his role in cutting programs and supporting the privatization of education at Concordia University."

Another demands that the university "either stop collecting the $2-per-credit fee for the capital campaign. . . or turn all fees collected from students [over to] a committee appointed by the CSU Council with proportional representation of the Faculties and independent students."

Another referendum question attacks the way the student organizations operate. The student newspapers retaliated this week by jointly denouncing the proposed Students Bill of Democratic Rights.

There is a referendum question calling on the Canadian government "to immediately withdraw from FTAA negotiations until [the government's] negotiating position is made public, and that a binding nation-wide referendum be held" to determine Canada's stance on free trade, and another condemning Israel.

Yet another proposal, if passed, would assure the survival of programs such as the popular People's Potato. Students would pay 25 cents per credit to the CSU for the next six years to support the project and would "demand that the Vice-Rector Services allocate additional kitchen, cooking equipment, serving space and seating space on the seventh floor [of the Hall Building]."

Get a really sweet taste of Quebec!

SUGARING-OFF PARTY • SATURDAY, MARCH 24
ERABLIÈRE LA GOUDRELLES, MONT ST-GREGOIRE

We meet in front of the Henry F. Hall Building at 11:30 a.m.
Bus leaves promptly at noon and returns at 6 p.m.

Cost is $20 for adults, $15 for children under 15,
includes transportation and the meal.

Please pay Lamis Subai, Advancement/Alumni Relations, 1250 Guy St., Room 520, by March 17. For more information, call 848-7376.

SPONSORED BY CAST, THE CONCORDIA ALUMNI STUDENT TEAM

CSU ELECTIONS 2001-2002

The candidates for this year's election follow. The election will be held March 26, 27 and 28.

SLATE NUMBER 1
President: Hammad Baig
VP Internal: Emmanuel Moreira
VP Internal: Luma Abu Judom
VP Communications: Mat Siemaszkiewicz
VP Clubs Commissioner: Pavan Magon

SLATE NUMBER 2
President: Sabrina Stea
VP Internal: Laith Marouf
VP External: Genevieve Page
VP Finance: Patrice Blais
VP Outreach: Benoit Desgreniers
VP Resources: Marina Tarantini

SLATE NUMBER 3
President: Chris Schultz
VP Internal: Avigail Aronoff
VP Communications: Sean Farrell
VP Finance: David Harrison
VP Academic: Laura Zapotichny

SLATE NUMBER 4
President: Paul Backman
VP: François-Marc Dionne
VP: Matthew Cresthol
VP External/Academic: Denis Robichaud

SLATE NUMBER 5
President: Ralph A. Lee
VP Internal: David M. Adams
VP External & Academic: Erin Matheson
VP Communications: Aisha Saintiche
VP Finance: David Penta

the backpage

continued from page 12

Volunteers for orphanage
Need female volunteers to help in an orphanage in Jaipur, India. Minimum period of work 4 months. Orphanage run by retired Concordia Professor. sheela.bhavan@usa.net.

Volunteer with kids
Preschools in Verdun, Lasalle and Ville Emard areas need teachers and teacher assistants. Weekdays 9-11:30am. Help with storytelling, arts and crafts and play group. Anna 937-5351 ext 246.

House wanted for summer
Looking for a house to rent this summer in NDG, Westmount, Montreal West, CDN or Outremont. Minimum 3 bedrooms with all amenities for 2 adults, 2 children (ages 9 and 13). Needed for a month, June 24 to August 5 (flexible at either end). We are Montrealers currently living in Johannesburg, S.A. danielfeist@icon.co.za.

Furnished apartment for rent
From July to December 2001, Plateau Mont-Royal, Marie-Anne and Iberville Sts. 5 1/2 2nd floor duplex, 2 bedrooms, office, private terrasse, heating, electricity, telephone and Internet included. $1,500/month. 747-7747.

Biofeedback kit
With explanatory manuals and articles. $30 or best offer, 935-6469.

Seeking yearbook
Have you got a 1964 Loyola yearbook to replace the one I lost? Please call (902) 539-1664.

For rent
4 1/2 lower duplex near Loyola available now. Quiet area, access to yard, near small park. Driveway, basement. Rent negotiable (can be furnished). 489-5031.

Seeking apartment
Non-smoking professional woman from Ontario, to attend Concordia in Fall 2001, seeking small apartment with character and natural light. Must be very close to Concordia/Loyola campus. Can house sit for faculty. Contact cmvoice@hotmail.com.

Editor wanted
Looking for student to edit in English. Dr. Zadeh 845-7227.

Driving service from NDG
Discounts rates to all parts of Mtl. Darren 488-4095.

Stove, fridge, microwave
Panasonic Little Genius Microwave in excellent condition; older model Admiral stove and fridge in good working condition. Would like to sell as a package for $300. Linda: kay@vax2.concordia.ca.

SGW grad rng wanted
Want to buy a 1973 Sir George Williams University graduation ring to replace one that was lost. Franklin Freedman, 696-6040.

English tutor available
Need help with your paper? Want to pass your next exam? Call 620-0917, or WestIslandEnglishTutor@Hotmail.com.

Parking space
Driveway parking available near Loyola. $40/month. Carol 481-9461.

For sale
Mac 56k modem, CPU, monitor and speakers $400. 487-5999.

Room for rent
Room for responsible non-smoking person. $330 / month. Must love dogs. Near Loyola. 481-9461.

English angst?
English writing assistance, proofreading/ editing for university papers, resumes, etc. Experienced, good rates. Lawrence 279-4710, articulationslh@hotmail.com.

English teacher
Experienced English teacher can help you with conversational or academic English. Do you want to improve your speaking, reading, writing, listening? Jon, 931-0647, jontaejon@hotmail.com

Services offertes
J'aimerais offrir mes services aux étudiants qui auraient besoin de faire la mise en page de leurs travaux, thèses, etc. J'effectue toujours mon travail de façon rapide et précise. c_delisle@ videotron.ca, (450) 654-5194.

Volunteers needed
Mondays, Wednesdays, and/or Fridays for lunchtime supervision, game room activities, etc., with adults with intellectual disabilities at the Centre for the Arts in Human Development on the Loyola Campus. References required. 848-8619.

Study Italian in Florence
7 levels of Italian offered. Choice of sharing an apartment with student, or home stay. Also available: painting, sculpting, cooking and photography. Package includes 4 weeks' accommodation, language course registration, return airfare from Dorval. $2,600. May 26–June 23. Info: Josée Di Sano 488-1778.

Work at Italian summer camps
Teach English through drama and outdoor activities. Intensive TEFL introductory course provided. Certificate issued. Camps all over Italy. Fax/phone: 0039 0184 50 60 70, www.acle.org.

Literacy volunteers
Frontier College Students for Literacy at Concordia are recruiting volunteers to be part of a non-profit team organizing literacy activities and tutoring. 848-7454, stu4lit@alcor.concordia.ca.

Workshops

MIGS workshop
• Professor Ruth Linn, of Haifa University and the University of British Columbia, will present "Genocide and the Politics of Remembering: The Nameless, the Celebrated and the Would-be Holocaust Heroes." Friday, March 16, noon, LB-608.

Computer workshops
Please visit the IITS Training Web site to find out about our various computer workshops and how to register: http://iits.concordia.ca/services/training.

Library workshops
Webster Library (downtown): hands-on (computer lab) workshops in LB-203. Sign up at reference desk, or 848-7777, library.concordia.ca.

Meetings & Events

Shared Parenting
Thursday, March 22, 7-9pm. A free workshop to help non-custodial fathers. Information will be available regarding an existing support group for separated, divorced and single fathers, operated by Catholic Community Services. Information and registration: Carolyn Arsenault, 937-5351, ext. 237.

Alzheimer workshop
March 23. A day of workshops for professional caregivers working with people with Alzheimer disease. 4873 Westmount Ave. Info: Dayna Morrow 369-0800.

***Bravo!* art exhibition**
Ends March 16. An exhibition by graduates students from all disciplines. 1500 de Maisonneuve W., 3rd floor.

EcoTaskForce
Getogethers Wednesdays 5–6pm, Java U Conference table, Hall Building Mezzanine. Info@explorasport.com.

Concordia Toastmasters Club
Be a successful, confident communicator. Learn to conduct business meetings, motivate people, do job interviews, sell ideas or products and solve problems in an informal setting. Info: Lawrence A. Moore 483-2269, or la_moor@alcor.concordia.ca.

Administration programs information sessions
Information sessions for the Graduate Diplomas in Administration and Sport Administration, and Graduate Certificates in Administration in the John Molson School of Business. Thursday, 6-7pm, March 29. GM 403-2, 4th fl. Information: 848-2766 or diadsa@vax2.concordia.ca.

Ban the internal-combustion engine, says SCPA panelist

BY SYLVAIN COMEAU

As winter winds howled outside one day earlier this term, speakers on a School of Community and Public Affairs panel reminded a Concordia audience that global warming is still a threat to every country on earth.

"Of all industrialized countries, we have the most at stake in the issue of climate change," said Liberal Party leader and former federal environment minister Jean Charest. "That is because our economy depends heavily on natural resources."

Panelists warned that Canada is failing utterly to meet its commitments under the Kyoto Protocol, an international agreement on greenhouse gas emissions in which we pledged to reduce our emissions by 6 per cent below 1990 levels by the years 2008 to 2012.

"In the real world of politics," Charest said, "it becomes very difficult for political leaders and ministers of the environment to actually get things done if there isn't a public environment of broad support and pressure to do the right thing. Unfortunately, global warming has not always been at the top of the agenda."

Concordia Environmental Economics professor Frank Müller suggested that simply meeting the letter of our agreement is just the beginning.

"The last century was a time of more knowledge, less wisdom and no ethics," he said. "The real question to ask is not whether we can meet our Kyoto obligations — which are inadequate to stop global warming — but can this protocol change our behaviour?"

"One thing holding us back are the myths about the environment," Charest said. "One of those myths is that implementing environmental initiatives like Kyoto is expensive. We have to convince people that the environment and economic initiatives are compatible."

But despite the obvious economic benefits to have a healthy environment and stable climate, Canada's politicians have fiddled while greenhouse gases accumulate at an alarming rate, said Elizabeth May, executive director of the Sierra Club, an environmental group.

May, who called Charest "the last good environment minister we've had," says that the weight of accumulated evidence about global warming since 1988 should convince anyone that the world is headed for a disaster.

"The first conference on climate change was in 1988," she said. "At the time, we declared that humanity is conducting an experiment with an end result second only to global nuclear war. Since then, the scientific evidence to prove our point has been overwhelming."

May charged that our compliance with Kyoto protocols "has been pathetic; emissions have actually gone up by 14 per cent since we signed the agreement," while some European countries complied within six months. Worse yet, the Kyoto protocol represents only 10 per cent of the reduction the world really needs.

"Even if every country met the Kyoto protocol, we only delay a doubling of greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere by 10 years. We actually need to reduce emissions by 60 per cent."

She added that a doubling of greenhouse gases, which scientists fear would cause more severe weather disruptions like the vicious hurricanes of recent years, may only be the beginning.

"People accuse environmentalists of harping on worst-case scenarios, but a doubling of greenhouse gases is not the worst case. Everything we know about climate change indicates that a doubling could easily lead to a tripling or quadrupling. The real requirement must be that we end our economic reliance on greenhouse gases."

In order to accomplish that, she suggests that the government set aggressive targets and give industry tax incentives to meet them.

"The government can demand that we stop burning coal to create electricity, and that we replace the internal combustion engine. If you set targets, industry will meet them — and find a way to make money in the process."

ANDREW DOBROWOLSKYJ

Jean Charest discusses greenhouse gas emissions with panelists Elizabeth May, of the Sierra Club, and Professor Frank Müller.

Goldini's Fickle Woman delights audiences at Concordia

HEATHER MARKGRAF

Theatre students Glenda Braganza and Jean Tartière ham it up in a scene from *The Fickle Woman*, now delighting audiences at the F.C. Smith Auditorium on the Loyola Campus.
The play was written by Carlo Goldini in 1750, and is a good example of commedia dell'arte, an enormously popular — and ribald — style of comedy.
The production, which is directed by Jean-François Gagnon, is on tonight, Friday and Saturday at 8, and Sunday afternoon at 2. Tickets are only $5 for students.

Faculty of Arts and Science

INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR RETURNING STUDENTS

Each year, 10 scholarships of $5,000 each will be awarded to students currently enrolled in one of our undergraduate programs. The scholarships will be awarded on the basis of academic merit.

Who is eligible?

Any student currently enrolled in an undergraduate program in the Faculty of Arts and Science who is neither a citizen nor a permanent resident of Canada. Students receiving exemptions from international tuition rates or other scholarships are not eligible to apply.

Are the scholarships renewable?

Yes. Students who maintain a GPA of at least 3.00 will be eligible to apply for a renewal of up to two more years.

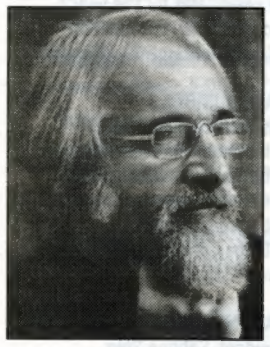
How do I apply?

In order to apply, you must fill out an application form, enclosing a copy of your academic record, a letter of recommendation from one of your professors and a letter of intent, explaining in 250 words how you have benefited from your time at Concordia University so far.

Application forms are available at SGW: ISO, Dean's office, H-653; LOY: AD-229. Deadline for applications: April 1. For more information, contact the Dean's Office, 848-2075. artsnsci@vax2.concordia.ca http://artsandscience.concordia.ca

Writers Read @ Concordia

Gary Geddes Tuesday March 20, 8:30 p.m., H-407



Award-winning writer and former Concordia professor Gary Geddes has published over 25 books of poetry, fiction, drama, translation, and non-fiction. His most recent is *Sailing Home: A Journey Through Time, Place, and Memory*. He now teaches at Western Washington University. Sponsored by Concordia's English Department, Creative Writing Program, the Canada Council for the Arts, and the League of Canadian Poets.

Coming Up: **Elizabeth Harvor** (March 29)

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2001 Graduate Students' Association Election and Referendum

Nominations are open for the following positions:

President
Vice President - Advocacy
Vice President - Finance
Vice President - Services
Vice President - External
Directors from Arts and Science Faculty - Arts (3 Positions)
Director from Arts and Science Faculty - Science (1 Position)
Director from Fine Arts Faculty
Director Registered as an Independent Student

Nomination forms are available from the Grad House, 2030 Mackay St.
Nomination period is: Friday, March 23, 10am to Monday, April 9, 5pm.

Voting period is: Wednesday, April 25 to Friday, May 18 5 PM.
Voting will take place through mail ballots only.

Student access to machine shop

A one-day refresher course will be held in the Mechanical Engineering Machine Shop to make the facility more accessible to students.

To be eligible, students who wish to register must provide proof of prior machine shop experience.

The course finishes with test to ensure the safety of participants. Students who pass the test will be allowed to use the student shop facilities under supervisors' guidelines.

To register, or for more information, please contact Brian Cooper in the Machine Shop, Room 0024 of the Henry F. Hall Building, by 4:30 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, March 16.

Science College
Public Lecture Series

Sunflowers, Full Moons and Pythagoras

Roger Cooke
Williams Professor
of Mathematics,
University of Vermont

Thursday, March 29 8:30 p.m.
H-110, Henry F. Hall Building

Varsity ambitions are limited by space and money, says coach

BY DAVID WEATHERALL

Keith Pruden is a little disappointed with the women's basketball season, and he's analyzing why.

"We probably should have beaten Bishop's in the conference semi-final," he said, "but I was pleased at how we progressed after the break. Before Christmas, we were tied for last, but we came back and strung enough wins together to finish second in our conference, which is no insignificant achievement."

Their luck ran out in the first round of the play-offs, where they lost to a determined Bishop's team for the second year in a row. "We've developed a good strong rivalry with Bishop's. They showed us that if you don't show up ready to play against them, you'll lose."

Inconsistency plagued the Stingers, which Pruden mainly attributed to youth and inexperience; over half of the players listed on the roster are either first- or second-year students.

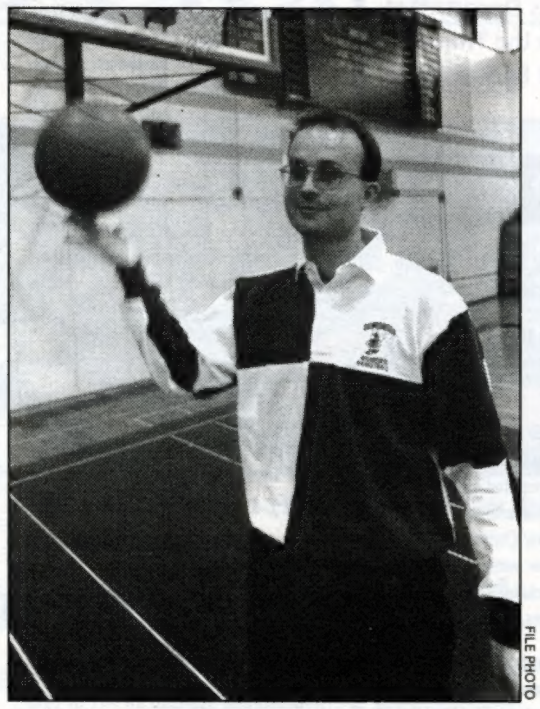
However, the problems go deeper. "When I recruit a player, I have nothing to offer them," he explained. "We have the smallest gym in the country, and getting extra time in that gym for player development is a scheduling nightmare.

"We have 26,000 students at this school, so obviously, there is heavy demand for gym time, and you have to have the facilities to accommodate it.

"I happen to like our gym. It's fun to play in and it always feels like we have a big crowd because it's so small, but if I bring a recruit into it, they ask me, This is your gym?"

Another obstacle to competing at the national level is money.

"Concordia doesn't have an athletic scholarship fund. Every year I lose at least three or four rookies that could make a huge difference. Athletes aren't shy these days. They'll ask you up front, How much can you give me? They know they're a valuable commodity."



FILE PHOTO

Lack of space and money are major obstacles, says basketball coach Keith Pruden.

Since Pruden isn't able to offer financial assistance, players must find other means of supporting themselves through their academic and athletic careers at Concordia.

"All of my players work, some almost to the point of full-time. That's on top of a full course load, and if you don't think that has an impact on fatigue, then you're wrong. Sorry I'm late for practice, coach, my boss kept me in, is something I hear all the time."

Pruden, who also works as Concordia's Student Affairs Coordinator, is now in his sixth year as head coach. He is obviously fond of his team, and is cautiously optimistic about next season.

"They are the nicest group of girls I've ever coached.

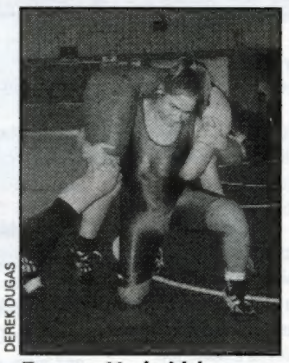
"That doesn't translate too well into aggressive competitiveness on the court, but it's still a nice thing to have."

Big Mat Attack:

Wrestlers win medals at Nationals

BY JOHN AUSTEN

They may not be as popular as WWF stars The Rock or Stone Cold Steve Austin but a pair of Concordia wrestlers came just a hair away from gold-medal victories earlier this month at the CIAU Wrestling Championships in Thunder Bay, Ont.



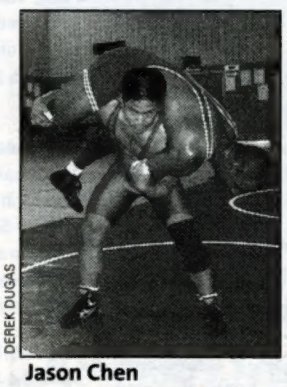
DEREK DUGAS

Tamara Medwidsky

Tamara Medwidsky won a silver medal in the 70-kilo weight class, while Jason Chen took bronze in the 68-kilo class at the finals, held at Lakehead University.

Medwidsky, 26, won a gold medal in the 65-kilo class weight class last year. She also took gold in the 1999 event. The MBA student has had a good season, finishing first at tournaments held at Queen's University and the University of Western Ontario.

In 1998 she represented Canada at the World Championships in Poland, and finished seventh. Her career objective is to win the world championship and represent Canada at the Olympics, should women's wrestling become an Olympic sport.



DEREK DUGAS

Jason Chen

Chen, 25, defeated Matt Farrell from the University of Calgary for the bronze.

"I should have been in the gold-medal match but I got robbed by a bad call," said Chen. "Normally, the officiating is dependable, but this was terrible. Apparently [the referee] is getting demoted. He cost me a great shot at the gold, but what are you going to do?"

Coach Victor Zilberman, who has racked up six national championships since taking over the Concordia program in 1977, says both his star wrestlers were superior to their opponents.

"Both Tamara and Jason work very hard and they were the best wrestlers in their respective weight classes," he said. "Maybe they were a bit nervous, but they should have both won gold."

Chen says he wasn't at his best at the championships. "I got the flu, so that slowed me down a bit," he said. "I was really disappointed at the final results — we all were."

Other Concordia results were: Martine Dugrenier, fifth, 65 kilos; Mark Roache, seventh, 90 kilos; and Chris Chung, eighth, 82 kilos.

With just three wrestlers, Concordia accumulated nine points and finished 12th out of 16 teams in the men's standings. Brock University finished in first place with 60 points. With Medwidsky and Dugrenier representing the women, Concordia earned 12 points and finished ninth out of 13 teams. University of Calgary was first overall with 54 points.

Zilberman says that wrestling is the "best sport around," and hopes to see some new recruits join the program.

"We were winning all the time in the 80s and we'd like to get to that point again," he said. "This form of wrestling doesn't always get the respect and support that it deserves. It's great for a person's all-around development and well-being."

Concordia Stingers sports round-up

BY JOHN AUSTEN

The Concordia Athletic Complex is a little quieter these days, since the men's hockey team succumbed to the same fate as both the women's and men's basketball squads and was bounced from play-off contention.

Coach Kevin Figsby and his hockey Stingers knew that beating the powerful Trois-Rivières Patriotes in a best-of-three playoff series would be difficult, but figured they had a chance after only losing game one 2-1 on the road. Playing back at the Ed Meagher Arena on March 2, the Stingers were obliterated 8-2 by the Pats, who scored five goals on the powerplay.

"We were down 4-0 early in the first period and three of their goals were with the man advantage," said Figsby. "We didn't exactly benefit from good calls."

Referee Eric Charron gave out 50 minutes in penalties overall, 34 minutes to Concordia.

"When you play those guys, you can't get behind the eight-ball like that and expect to come back," Figsby said. "Overall, our season has been very satisfying, though. When we started, we said it would take a couple of years to rebuild the hockey program, and I'd say we're on track to doing that."

Defenceman Patrick Pelchat and Geoff Comeau scored the only goals for Concordia in front of 450 boisterous fans.

Men's basketball

The men's basketball team may have a lot of talent in 2001 but it didn't translate into victories at the right time. The Stingers were upset 70-65 by the Laval Rouge et Or in the Quebec Conference sudden-death basketball final, played March 1 at Concordia Gym.

What makes the loss even more disappointing is the fact that Concordia had handled Laval 70-58 and 68-65 in two regular season matches.

"It's great to beat Concordia — it's definitely an upset," said Laval coach Jacques Paiment. "I have a lot of respect for Concordia and their coach [John Dore]. Our players played very well and deserve it I think."

The Stingers led through much of the game and held a 38-34 lead at halftime. Laval eventually went ahead 66-60 and the Stingers never recovered.

Réal Kitieu led Concordia with 16 points, 10 rebounds and six blocked shots. James Aubourg followed up with 13 points, while Shawn Critchlow chipped in with 12 points.

Women's basketball

For the second straight year, the women's basketball team were dumped in the semifinals of the Quebec Conference championships. The Bishop's Gaiters played spoilers, beating Concordia 51-42 in the sudden-death match on February 28.

Allstar guard Marie-Pier Veilleux scored 10 points and had four boards in a losing cause for the Stingers.

The Stingers had split with Bishop's during the regular season, losing 66-64 on November 10 and winning 50-46 on January 27. Both the Stingers and Gaiters had losing records during the regular season.

Cagers receive honours

In the good news department, representatives of the Stingers men's and women's teams took six all-star spots and both the top defensive player awards when the QSSF announced its annual honours earlier this month.

On the women's side, Veilleux was a first team all-star and the conference's best defensive player. Centre Kristina Steinfort and forward Jessica Manchester were named to the second all-star team.

Three members of the men's team were also acknowledged. Kitieu, the leading rebounder and shot blocker in the CIAU, was a first-team all-star. Forward Wayne Alexander was a first team all-star and the conference's outstanding defensive player. Guard Gavin Musgrave was named to the second all-star team.

the backpage

Events, notices and classified ads must reach the Public Relations Department (BC-115) in writing no later than Thursday, 5 p.m. the week prior to the Thursday publication. For more information, please contact Debbie Hum at 848-4882, by fax: 848-2814 or by e-mail: ctr@alcor.concordia.ca.

March 15 • March 29

Applied Psychology Centre

The Applied Psychology Centre in the Department of Psychology offers confidential psychotherapy and assessment for adults, couples, families, children and teenagers. By appointment only. 848-7550.

Art

Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery
Monday to Friday 11am-7pm; Saturday 1pm-5pm; closed Sundays. 1400 de Maisonneuve W. Free. Info: 848-4750.
March 27 – April 17
25 Artists, 25 Years: Celebrating the Faculty of Fine Arts. Vernissage Tuesday March 27 at 5:30pm.

CPR classes

Environmental Health and Safety
For information and prices on the following courses, call Donna Fasciano at 848-4355.

Sunday, March 18
Heartsaver
Saturday, March 24
Heartsaver Plus
Sunday, March 25
Baby Heartsaver
Tuesday, March 27
Heartsaver
Thursday, March 29
Heartsaver

Campus Ministry

http://advocacy.concordia.ca/ministry/ Loyola: Belmore House, L-WF 101, 2496 W. Broadway, 848-3588; SGW: Annex Z, rooms 102-106, 2090 Mackay, 848-3590.

Healing and the Body: Healing and the Spirit
Discussion group on the book, *Anatomy of the Spirit: The Seven Stages of Power & Healing,* by Caroline Myss. Wednesdays 4:30-5:30pm, L-WF 110-10 (Belmore House), 848-3587.

Prison Visit Program
Mondays 6-9pm. Peter Côté 848-3586, pecote@vax2.concordia.ca.

Dream Catching
Learning or deepening skills to "catch" and understand your dreams, the vital window to the soul and psyche. Wednesdays 3-4:30pm. Campus Ministry - Annex Z, Room 105. Information: Michelina Bertone 848-3591.

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard
Vegetarian meals, Mondays 5-7pm. Annex Z (2090 Mackay), Room 105. Suggested donation $1.

Stress Reduction Through Mindfulness
Thursdays 4:15-6pm. Annex Z (2090 Mackay) Room 105.

Insight Meditation
SGW (Z-205): Wednesdays 11:45-1pm. & 5:15-7pm. Loyola (Belmore House L-WF 100-10): Tuesdays 11:45am–1pm.

Buddha's Nature
Reading group Wednesdays, 1:30-2:45pm, Annex Z, Room 105.

Retreat in Daily Life
Registration: David Eley 848-3587.

The Lunch Bunch
You bring your lunch, we provide coffee/tea/hot chocolate. Thursdays 12:30-2pm, Annex Z, Room 105.

Flicks, TV & Tunes: The Student's Guide to the Universe and Beyond
Find out how pop culture give us clues to our common quest for meaning. Thursdays 2:30–4pm. Annex Z Room 105.

Pathways to Inner Peace
Meditate and experience the transforming power of God's love. Tuesdays noon-1pm, Annex Z Room 105.

Reflections
Learn new ways to incorporate spirituality into your daily living. Tuesdays 3:30-5pm, Annex Z Room 105.

Outreach Experience
Volunteer service program. Info: Michelina Bertone 848-3591.

Centre for Teaching & Learning Services

To register for any of the following workshops, please contact the Centre for Teaching and Learning Services at 848-2495 or ctls@alcor.concordia.ca. http://relish.concordia.ca/ctls/

Building a WebCT Enriched Course
Fred Szabo (Mathematics and Statistics) will demonstrate WebCT-supported course enrichment tools (including posted lecture notes, e-mail, play-by-play material and automated quizzes and drills), and the use of WebCT as a tool for collaborative research, thesis supervision and distance education. March 16, 12-1:30pm, H-769.

Considerations for Advancing the Practice of Inclusive Teaching
Participants will explore strategies to encourage inclusive classroom-based teaching and learning. March 19, 9:30am-12pm, H-771.

Maintaining an Effective Class Home Page
A class home page can be a powerful tool for communicating course information, lecture notes and assignments to students, and building a sense of community. Issues and possible solutions are discussed. March 21, 10am-12pm, H-762.

Teaching an Online Course: Issues and Challenges
This workshop will focus on the merits and challanges of online teaching, and practical issues such as getting students to participate, managing a large amount of correspondence, and administering online quizzes. March 27, 12-1:30pm, H-771.

Concert Hall

Oscar Peterson Concert Hall, 7141 Sherbrooke St. W. Box office hours: Monday-Friday, 10am-noon, 2-5pm. Reservations through Admission at 790-1245 or http://www.admission.com. For more listings: http://oscar.concordia.ca.

Thursday, March 15
Bozzini Quartet, 8pm. The string quartet performs works by John Cage, Charles Ives, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and John Rea. Tickets: $14 general, $10 seniors. Free for students with ID.

Friday, March 16
Art Matters Festival, closing gala, 7:30pm. Free admission.

Sunday, March 18
Joe Sullivan Big Band, at 7:30pm. Featuring a stellar lineup that includes members of la Bottine Souriante, the Vic Vogel Big Band, the Denny Christianson Big Band and many other veteran Montreal jazz ensembles. Tickets: $12 general/$8 students and seniors.

Saturday, March 24
Piano, Voice and Violin, at 8pm. Diploma students perform works by Pergolesi, Mozart, Chopin, Prokofiev and others. Tickets $5 general, free for students with ID.

Wednesday, March 28
Jazz Improvisation Ensembles, at 8pm. First-year ensembles directed by Gary Schwartz perform a varied program of Latin and funk-influenced jazz. Tickets at door only: $5 general, free for students with ID.

Thursday, March 29
Concordia Jazz Guitar Ensemble, at 8pm. Music composed by Stevie Wonder and arranged especially for this group by director Andrew Homzy. Tickets at door only: $5 general, free for students with ID.

Counselling and Development

SGW: H-440, 848-3545; Loyola: 2490 W. Broadway, 848-3555.

ADD/ADHD
Diagnosed with ADD/ADHD? Join our support group. Every Monday from Feb. 5-Mar. 26, 5:30-7:00pm.

Student Success Program Centre
Take a Student Success Check-Up! Get connected to the right resources! Sign up for workshops at H-481.

Pride
A discussion/exploration group for lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and those questioning their sexual orientation. Sign up in H-481.

More than relaxation
Through a series of carefully structured movement lessons, you will learn to move more comfortably, relax more completely and act more efficiently. Thursday, March 29, noon-1pm, H-440.

Leadership and team building
Learn the characteristics of good leaders, how to motivate others, and give constructive feedback. Thursday, March 29, 1:30-4:30pm, H-440.

Employee Assistance Program

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a voluntary, confidential counselling and information service for full-time, permanent University employees and their families. 24 hours a day – 7 days a week.
1-800-387-4765 (English)
1-800-361-5676 (French)

Health Services

6th Annual Recipe Contest
March is Nutrition Month. To celebrate Health Services is holding its annual recipe contest. Enter your nutritious and easy-to-make recipes before March 21. Prizes for top 3 recipes. Winners determined by taste test Tues. March 27. Submit recipes by fax (848-2834), e-mail (morano@alcor.concordia.ca) or drop off recipes at either Health Services location or at the Hall Building info desk. Info: 848-3572

Wednesday, March 21
Visit the annual Health Fair and find ways to move towards healthier living. This year's topics include nutrtion, exercise, smoking cessation, healthy travel and more. Games and prizes. Hall Building Mezzanine 11am-4pm.

Tuesday, March 27
Drop by the Mezzanine of the Hall Building to help us judge the 6th annual recipe contest. While you are there pick up a copy of the recipes of the finalists to make at home. 11am - 3pm.

Lectures

Thursday, March 15
Dr. Louise Bourdua (University of Aberdeen), on "Matrons and Patrons: Women and Franciscan Art in Late Medieval Italy." 10:30am, VA-210.

Thursday, March 15
Canadian artists Lisa Steele and Kim Tomczak give a talk and video presentation of their work. 8:15pm, Bourget Building, 1230 de la Montagne, Room 107-108. Please buzz the doorbell at the main entrance to get in. Sponsored by the Studio Arts Visiting Artist Program.

Friday, March 16
Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights presents Dr. Azmi Bishara, member of the Knesset (Israeli Parliament) and former head of the Philosophy Department at Bri Zeit University, on "The Myth of Israeli Democracy." 7pm, H-110. Information: 219-2356

Friday, March 16
The MFA Studio Art Program presents talks by print artists Patrick Visentin and Christian Kuras, painters Kevin Willson and Sarah Gayle Key, and sculptors Catherine Sylvain and David Floren. 2pm, 1500 de Maisonneuve W. 3rd floor.

Friday, March 16
The Faculty of Fine Arts's William K. Everson memorial screenings presents American Film Noir: *Pitfall* (1948) at 7pm, and *Border Incident* (1949) at 9:30pm, in VA-114.

Friday, March 16
Dr. David Copp (Bowling Green University), on "Social Unity and the Identity of Persons." Part of the Philosophy Colloquium Series. 3pm, H-433.

Friday, March 16
J. Krishnamurti video presentation on "Can the Human Mind be Completely Free of Fear?"H-420, 8:30pm.

Tuesday, March 20
Award-winning writer and former Concordia professor Gary Geddes, discusses his books, including his most recent, *Sailing Home: A Journey Through Time, Place, and Memory.* 8:30pm, H-407.

Tuesday, March 20
The Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy and the School of Community and Public Affairs present Sociology Professior Christian Fleck (University of Graz, Austria), on "Xenophobia in Europe: Dirty Work or Do-Gooder's Nightmare?" 5:30-8pm, Samuel Bronfman House, 1590 Dr. Penfield (corner Côte-des-Neiges), Room 301.

Thursday, March 22
Campus Ministry and Development and Peace present Sister Rosanne Mallillin, of the National Secretariat for Social Action, Justice and Peace, on "Globalization and the Philippines." Noon to 2pm, 2090 Mackay, Room 105.

Thursday, March 22
Dr. Christine Daigle (Concordia), on "Nihilism." Part of the Philosophy Colloquium Series. 3pm, H-843.

Thursday, March 22
The Simone de Beauvoir Institue presents "Women's Mystery Month," with a reading and book-signing by Lillian S. Robinson of her academic feminist murder mystery, *Mystery Most Puzzling.* 7pm, 2170 Bishop, MU-101.

Friday, March 23
The Faculty of Fine Arts presents films based on stories by Cornell Woolrich, *Fear in the Night* (1947) at 7pm, *The Window* (1949) at 9pm, in VA-114.

Friday, March 23
The English Department presents Len Findlay (University of Saskatchewan), on "Turning the Page, Decolonizing the University." 2pm, H-760.

Friday, March 23
J. Krishnamurti video presentation, "What is Creation, the Origin, the Beginning?" H-420, 8:30pm.

Tuesday, March 27
Screening of *Silence Broken: Korean Comfort Women.* Written, produced and directed by Dai Sil Kim-Gibson, this documentary shatters a half-century silence for Korean women forced into sexual servitude by the Japanese Imperial Army during WWII. Part of the Simone de Beauvoir Institute's Feminist Films 2001 series. 4pm, H-110.

Wednesday, March 28
The English Department presents Joan Schenkar, on "Dolly Wilde: A Study in Creative Biography." 8:30pm, H-762.

Legal Information

Concordia's Legal Information Services offers free and confidential legal information and assistance to the Concordia community. By appointment only: 848-4960.

Notices

History in the Making Conference
Saturday, March 17. Students will present papers on a wide variety of topics. Guest speakers are filmmaker Brian McKenna and Daniel J. Walkowitz (new York University). 9:30am-7:30pm, H-415.

Graduate Students' Association Book Sale
March 28, 29 and 30 from 9am to 8pm in the Hall Building mezzanine. Come on by for some great deals!

Researcher/Electron microscopy
The Centre Interdépartmental de Microscopie Electronique of EPFL seeks a researcher of academic level with skills in transmission electron miscroscopy. Prior experience of HRTEM, EDS and EELS would be useful. The engagement should start as soon as possible with six months duration and possibility of extension. http://cimewww.epfl.ch
Submit applications to:
ruth.rouquier@epfl.ch

Introduction to a new philosophy
Join a discussion group now being formed based on the ideas of Plato and Aristotle, Hegel and Marx, and beyond. On the limitations of science; reason in the universe; the nature of consciousness; the future of a technological society; problems of socialism and more. Call James Lewis, 931-1657.

CUTV
Interested in TV production? CUTV meets 4pm. Fridays in H651-1. CUTV is Canada's only student-run television station and is looking for producers or student-produced material. 848-7403.

Indigenous Peoples International
Seeking new members and new leadership to keep the group alive in 2001. Info: kimmia_99@hotmail.com.

Office of Rights & Responsibilities

The Office of Rights and Responsibilities is available to all members of the university community for confidential consultations regarding any type of unacceptable behaviour, including discrimination and personal/sexual harassment, threatening and violent conduct, theft, destruction of property. 848-4857, or drop by GM-1120.

Ombuds Office

The Ombuds Office is available to all members of the University for information, confidential advice and assistance with university-related problems. Call 848-4964, or drop by our new location at GM-1120.

Peer Support Centre

Need to talk?
We provide confidential listening and informative referrals to all Concordia students. Mon-Thurs 12-5pm, 2090 Mackay, Room 02, 848-2859.

Become a volunteer
Interested in becoming a volunteer at the Peer Support Centre? You would learn about communication, problem-solving, university resources, being part of a group and lots more. It's challenging, often fun, and a way to be helpful to other students. Drop by the Peer Support Centre, 2090 Mackay, at 848-3590 or by e-mail at: hellieh@alcor.concordia.ca. Application deadline is April 12, 2001.

Theatre

The Fickle Woman
Play by Carlo Goldoni, directed by Jean-François Gagnon. General admission $10, students $5. March 15-17, 8pm, March 18, 2pm, F.C. Smith Lobby, 7141 Sherbrooke W.

Fifteen Love / Truth Hurts
Pro-Can Theatre presents a double bill, a romantic comedy and a family drama, by Randi Cousineau. March 23, 24 and 30, 31 at 7:30pm. Rosedale-Queen Mary United Church, 6870 de Terrebonne, NDG. Donation $5-$7. Ages 16+

Unclassified

Cycling tours in Central Europe
Travel with us to the Czech Republic. Explore beautiful countryside, old castles, churches and the most beautiful city in the world, the golden Prague. Each day's itinerary includes spectacular scenery, a lesson in a local history and plenty of opportunities to soak up the local colour. Summer 2001: 13-day tours run from May 27 to Sept. 14. Affordable prices. Info: (831) 663-6890 or CyclingInternational@prodigy.net.

Drivers for elderly needed
Senior centres in East-End, downtown and Lachine urgently need volunteer drivers. If you can spare some time, call Anna at 937-5351, ext. 264.

Ikea loveseat for sale
Pale colours in a geometric chevron pattern. Comfortable, in good condition, $90. Call 931-8314.

Ladies' fur coat for sale
Beautiful full length raccoon coat with shawl collar. Size 12, excellent condition, $600. Call 931-8314.

See page 9 for more listings